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U.S. CONDUCTS 'IRRESPONSIBLE' 11 FEB TEST

LD121334 Moscow TASS in English 1258 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS -- TASS news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

An international forum for a nuclear-free world, for the survival of humanity is to open in Moscow on February 14 in the presence of over 850 noted scientists, political and public figures and cultural personalities from many countries of the world. With this forum approaching, a report comes in from the USA that a new nuclear explosion has been staged in Nevada state. How should one react to this news? The explosion timed to coincide with the Moscow forum is an open challenge to world public opinion, one more blow to the hopes of the peoples, including the people of America, for delivering this planet from nuclear armaments.

That is what Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said to me today. It is hard not to agree with his opinion. The nuclear explosion at the Nevada test site, the 26th one in the last eighteen months, is not only a challenge to the world public but also fresh evidence of the fact that the metastasis of militarism is increasingly eroding the mechanism intended for planning and implementing Washington's foreign policy.

Proofs are not far to seek. This is Washington's intensive preparations for "Star Wars" with emphasis on the development of a number of SDI components and testing them in space already in the coming few years; Washington's plans to spend over 12 billion in the next decade on the production of chemical weapons including binary munitions, although it is known from the American press that already at this stage the Pentagon has at its disposal 3 million units of chemical munitions; and the fact that the United States is sabre-rattling in the eastern Mediterranean, in the Persian Gulf area, is working up tensions in Central America and raising obstacles to national reconciliation in Afghanistan....

One cannot fail to note that the militaristic slant of U.S. foreign policy and increased hegemonistic tendencies in it are taking place at a time when an unprecedented political scandal, known as "Irangate," is growing in Washington. Is it a chance coincidence? Hardly so. Perhaps those at the helm of the federal ship in the USA hope with the help of arrogant militarist actions and aggressive foreign policy ventures to cement, or at least conceal from public eyes, the leak in the bottom of this vessel? This was or other, the 26th explosion in Nevada is evidence of an irresponsible and dangerous policy which gives the Soviet and world public cause for growing anger and concern.

Petrosyants: Another Challenge

LD122029 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] In the press center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs today, a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists was held on current policy issues.

It was stressed that the second nuclear explosion carried out this year in Nevada was yet another challenge to humanity by the U.S. Administration. It is noted the explosion appears to have been timed to coincide with the opening in Moscow of the international forum "For a Nuclear-free World and for the Survival of Humanity."

The briefing was addressed by Petrosyants, leader of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva Soviet-U.S. experts' talks on questions of ending nuclear weapons tests and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Utilization of Atomic Energy.

Having described the situation at the talks as complicated and difficult, he dwelt on the basic reasons for the disagreements. Information was given on the fact that a process of reviewing a number of matters, especially matters relating to Article 70 of the RSFSR Criminal Code on Anti-Soviet Agitation and Propaganda is under way in the Soviet Union. Many who have been sentenced in accordance with this article have appealed for pardon. These appeals are being considered and are being granted by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. So far, about 140 people have been pardoned.

A commission, comprising representatives of various departments and of the public, is studying the possibilities of reviewing the text of the basic principles of RSFSR criminal legislation and of the RSFSR criminal code with the aim of relaxing them.

Answers were given to questions from journalists.

KORIONOV ON U.S. ALLIES' OPPOSITION TO SDI

PM121557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Korionov "Commentator's Column": "The Peoples Will Not Be Deceived"]

[Text] The world's press is full of reports on the new battles ranging around SDI in the NATO countries. Washington is holding conference after conference of ranking U.S. Government spokesmen at which the Pentagon "hawks" are demanding that an "accelerated timetable" be adopted which would pave the way for the speedy deployment and testing in space of the first SDI elements.

Striving to "Justify" this course, the administration is trying to find holes in the 1972 Soviet-U.S. ABM Treaty. In particular, it is trying to give a so-called "broad interpretation" to the provisions of the treaty, which would give a free hand to those who hate the restrictions imposed by this document. Official White House spokesman M. Fitzwater recently announced that back in October 1985 R. Reagan concluded that such a "broad interpretation" would be "permissible from the legal viewpoint" and now he is personally deciding whether he should switch to the practical use of this "broad" interpretation with a view to expediting the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike weapons. As Fitzwater was forced to admit, this approach is not even supported by a number of leading figures in Congress.

The administration's course, THE WASHINGTON POST notes, "can only be justified if we are convinced about the option of not giving a damn about anything for the sake of SDI." "If this proposal goes through," THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR adds, "we can forget about any agreement or about arms control during the Reagan presidency."

Naturally, the administration's adventurist actions are generating mounting opposition not only in the United States itself but also in the circles of the U.S. NATO allies. The countries making up the "big seven" have just recently rejected the attempts to involve them in the gendarme action which the Pentagon "top brass" are planning to carry out against Lebanon. Now they are faced with Washington's efforts to trample the ABM Treaty underfoot.

Realistically minded West European circles cannot fail to understand that Washington is striving to open the floodgates for an even more dangerous spiral in the arms race.

"Washington's open disregard for the allies' interests," Britain's THE OBSERVER writes, "now forces us to discuss the danger of the intensification of anti-American sentiments, which have roots in a number of West European countries." West European government circles cannot fail to take account of this or of the fact that Washington's actions undermine their states' security. London, Bonn, and other allied capitals have already voiced their concern to the United States.

Life attests that SDI has already become a factor in the exacerbation of tension in the world. It is natural that rejection of the nuclear maniacs' militarist action is growing everywhere.

Ledogar Reproaches Allies

LD062239 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1430 GMT 6 Feb 87

["U.S. NATO Representative Reproaches European Allies" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Brussels, 6 Feb (TASS) -- Stephen Ledogar, U.S. NATO representative, today directed a torrent of reproaches against the European members of that military alliance which, according to the U.S. Administration, are insufficiently extending the arms race spiral in Western Europe and, in a number of cases, have adopted an anti-American position. Speaking at NATO headquarters here, he voiced his government's deep regret that many West European countries in NATO are insisting on the gradual withdrawal of U.S. units and weapons from the states of Western Europe and on a minimal U.S. military presence in those countries. In Ledogar's view, such a policy, one of not relying on a position of strength, is leading to a worsening of relations between the West European countries and the United States. According to him, these relations must rely on two existing "fundamental factors" in Western Europe: Nuclear weapons, and the vast potential of the conventional weapons of the United States. Rejecting any critical comments and positions of his European bloc partners, Ledogar warned that such a policy would undoubtedly lead to a worsening of relations with their transatlantic "patron." Only an all-out strengthening of NATO's so-called defensive potential and its nuclear forces, and the growth and modernization of its conventional weapons can, according to the U.S. representative, close the ranks of the NATO members and, strange though it may seem, promote European security.

CSCE DELEGATE ON IMPORTANCE OF 'REAL' REDUCTIONS

LD111639 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Vienna February 11 TASS -- The strengthening of security and the transition to reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe is one of the main directions of the European process, said member of the USSR delegation, Major General Viktor Tatarnikov.

He spoke today at a plenary sitting of the Vienna meeting of representatives of the countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. This task is ever more topical, since Europe has the highest concentration of military might in the world, he said. Huge numbers of military installations, of the most up-to-date weapons, numerous U.S. military bases are situated in Europe and in adjacent sea and ocean expanses.

It is only through real reduction of armed forces and armaments in Eurpoe that the level of military confrontation can be lowered and a tense military-political situation can be eased. All these matters, just as new confidence-building measures in the military sphere could be tackled in earnest at the next stage of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe. Other important questions, such as notification about autonomous air force and naval exercises, restriction of the scopes of military exercises, the spreading of confidence-building measures to the territories of all participating countries should also be decided there.

The Vienna meeting of countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has a right to adopt a decision on supplementing the mandate of the Stockholm Conference so that it should deal also with measures of actual disarmament. The Soviet representative noted that the ball is in the court of NATO countries now. They have not yet submitted any concrete proposal on the problem of European disarmament at the Vienna forum.

KARPOV ON USSR 'MODEL OF NEW MENTALITY'

LD111717 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Program entitled "The Soviet Plan for a Nuclear-Free World -- a Model of the New Mentality" with Viktor P. Karpov, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium and head of the Directorate for Arms Limitation and Disarmament Problems, in Moscow, date not specified -- live or recored]

[Text] Since human civilization came about, there has been a principle: If you want peace, prepare for war. War has served as an instrument of policy; people approached war as an art form. War may have yielded colossal destruction, but war has also brought victory and the opportunity to become established as an empire, as a state. As the empires fell, others arose, but the principle if you want peace, prepare for war has existed up to our times, to the 20th century.

Then nuclear weapons appeared, nuclear weapons that radically changed, or rather, should have changed, people's very mentality, their attitude to questions of war and peace Albert Einstein, at the dawn of the nuclear age, said that nuclear weapons have changed the world but have not changed people's consciousness. This really is true. The nuclear age demands a new approach, a new approach to those problems that also arise, and to questions of war and peace. On these matters -- the problems of war and peace -- new dimensions have appeared, dimensions that can be described in short as the problem of the future of humankind, the problem of its survival.

The problem of nuclear disarmament announced on 15 January last year by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev is intended precisely to ensure the survival of humankind and to give it the opportunity of using all of its available material and spiritual resources at its present stage of development, to ensure moving into the 21st century without nuclear weapons and into a world without wars.

Wherein lies the significance of this program? It is, first and foremost, that it is comprehensive. It encompasses all the fundamental elements of the equation that should lead to a genuinely nuclear-free world and ensure the security of peoples. This program is at the same time not utopian, although it does proclaim a very far-reaching aim, namely liberating humankind from nuclear war, from the nuclear threat altogether. This program has formulated a far-reaching aim, but it also outlines realistic ways of achieving it, ways prompted by life itself and the objective development of military technology, including nuclear technology. In short, this program is one of practical actions, a program for real disarmament, as distinct from the slogans that the West at times falls back on.

Our program is one projecting 15 years of very active, intensive and singleminded work so that, initially, in the first phase, there will be a reduction in nuclear strategic weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union, as the leading nuclear powers, by 50 percent. They then proceed to the second phase, now with the participation of other nuclear powers, to begin the liquidation of other kinds of nuclear weapons, first and foremost weapons designated as tactical. Then, moving steadily to the third phase, is the liquidation of all remaining nuclear weapons.

Our program for nuclear disarmament is not at all restricted only to nuclear weapons. It is understandable that now, with the development of science and technology, other types of weapons are also being refined. There are chemical weapons, weapons of mass destruction and there is the possibility of developing weapons using new physical principles: beam weapons, laser and other kinds of weapons that could, in their destructive might, compare with and perhaps even surpass nuclear weapons. Therefore, the Soviet program talks not only about the liquidation of nuclear weapons, but also about the liquidation of other kinds of mass destruction weapons, first and foremost chemical weapons, and also stresses the need for a sharp reduction in conventional weapons. The goal is to bring these weapons to the minimum level of reasonable sufficiency, sufficient to maintain security on the basis of a worldwide, all-encompassing system of international peace and security.

After being put forward, the program has been developing, growing richer with new proposals from the Soviet Union. It has been made concrete on all its levels. First of all, it is essential to mark the significance of the meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan as far as nuclear and space weapons are concerned. The Soviet side went to this meeting with a precise, clear program. This program was designed to really open wide the door to a world without weapons, a world without wars, starting with sharp and deep reductions in the nuclear weapons of the USSR and the United States. This would make it possible in the next 10 years to completely liquidate the Soviet as well as the U.S. strategic offensive means. With the participation of other states, the process will move toward further even greater reductions,and to the subsequent liquidation of all nuclear weapons.

The question was formulated in a concrete way. Concrete prospects were drawn up by our side and ways of achieving these tasks were revealed. However, everything hinges on the U.S. unwillingness to close the road of the arms race in space. Sometimes it is asked why the Soviet Union has made this issue, the issue of not allowing weapons into space, an obstacle to reaching an agreement on real nuclear disarmament. This is not so. The issue is formulated differently.

Namely: The United States, having proclaimed its SDI program, in essence would have liked, when talking to us about the liquidation of nuclear weapons, to simultaneously open the road in the development of new types of weapons, space weapons. These weapons could change sharply the general strategic balance and could alter the question of peace guarantees and security for all. Because of this, it has been necessary to try to decide the questions comprehensively and not individually. The stubborn unwillingness of the U.S. Administration to take into account this interdependence, to take real measures to close the road of sending weapons into space has become an obstacle to reaching an accord.

I participated in the Reykjavik meeting and can, as a witness, say the two contrasting positions the Soviet Side confronted there made a deep impression on me. As a representative of our group of experts, I had to negotiate with the U.S. experts regarding the implementation of those decisions drafted in Reykjavik that were agreed upon during the 1st day of the meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and President Reagan.

What struck me most of all? The very disparity of the two positions: our position, which was calculated on major practical decisions in the sphere of nuclear disarmament, and the narrowness of viewpoint, approach and thinking of the U.S. experts. They do not think in terms of reducing or eliminating nuclear weapons but in terms of retaining nuclear weapons, of adapting the very aim of nuclear disarmament to the strategic tasks of the United States and of guaranteeing the U.S. nuclear potential for waging a nuclear war.

It would seem a paradoxical position: We are talking about nuclear disarmament while at the same time, the United States wants to ensure its nuclear potential to wage a nuclear war. Nonetheless, this paradox is a reality. In the United States, in Washington, the administration is not averse to speculating about nuclear disarmament. It willingly admits such an aim does exist, the aim of eliminating nuclear weapons. However, in so doing, it puts forward its own understanding of how a non-nuclear world could be attained. The U.S. side essentially opposes the Soviet program of nuclear disarmament through the elimination of nuclear weapons with its Star Wars program, which is depicted as a means of making nuclear weapons innocuous and obsolete.

But let's have a look at how this Star Wars program combines with the aims of nuclear disarmament. What is the meaning of this program? It is to set up an impenetrable umbrella over the United States, as President Reagan stated as early as 1983. Now, many people in the United States, who come into contact with this program in one way or another, are taking part in wider scale debates as to whether this program makes sense, whether it can be attained, and what it will provide in terms of security for the United States itself, and for the world.

On the one hand, the desire is more and more apparent on the part of the more militaristically minded U.S. circles, defense Secretary Weinberger first of all, to bind the United States to decisions that would signify the deployment [razvertivaniye] at least in part, of the Star Wars program, at the beginning of the nineties, thereby making the process irreversible. On the other hand, there are a great many scientists who now believe the program itself cannot be implemented in the form in which it has been declared, and Weinberger's attempts to set about making the decision to deploy this program are aiming to get money out of congress, as they say, and thereby to spur on work to develop [po sozdaniyu] a strategic defense programme.

It is being said this program is one of eliminating nuclear weapons but if one looks at the real policies of the United States one can see that the plan indicates something totally different. Along with the development [sozdaniye] of anti-missile systems in space and on earth, the United States is planning and implementing a broad program of modernizing its nuclear arsenal and developing [sozdaniye] new strategic systems: the MX missile, Trident-2, long-range cruise missiles, and the new strategic bombers, including the Stealth bomber. All, in purpose and design, must have a single intent: dealing the first disarming strike. It must be noted that when, on 23 march 1983, President Reagan announced his Star Wars program, he noted this aspect and spoke of the fact that if the United States were to take the road of combining anti-missile systems with offensive weapon arsenals, this could be seen as evidence of aggressive intent. What the administration is now doing confirms this, that here we are dealing precisely with aggressive intentions. It is not a question of some short-term undertaking designed for a brief period. No, as recently stated by Admiral Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, when speaking of the nuclear arms sphere, it is a question of modernization and renewal by the United States; not of a sprint, as he put it, but a marathon. What he is talking about is a protracted program relying on a complete overhaul of the U.S. offensive nuclear potential.

All in all, to draw a conclusion, the U.S. nuclear program is designed, in combination with the SDI program, to guarantee that it is the United States that can wage a nuclear war, calculating on winning with a minimum of losses. This is definitely apparent already. We are able to talk about this on the basis of the real tendencies of nuclear arms development [razvitiye] in the United States. We are, of course, obliged to seek answers to the U.S. aggressive programs and to think about how to make America's nuclear systems as unthreatening as possible to the Soviet Union. However we believe this route, the route of arms race competition, is a dangerous one. It will not lead to strengthening strategic stability nor to lessening the danger of nuclear war breaking out, but, on the contrary, it will more likely increase this danger. Our route, then, the route we are proposing, is one of a gradual move toward a non-nuclear world. In this respect, our program, a year before it was announced, had demonstrated real possibilities of moving in this direction.

There are now, as it were, two poles in the development of mood and thinking on questions of war and peace. One pole, around which the vast majority of people throughout the world is concentrated, ensures broad support for the Soviet program and is in favor of its being very rapidly implemented. At the same time, another tendency is to be observed, that of growing opposition in certain countries among the upper level of the political leadership, opposition to any movement in favor of a non-nuclear world.

Last year, on several occasions I had to speak with political figures from various countries -- Britain and the United States, West Germany and France -- and I could say that year showed great change in thinking and approach in many of Western Europe's political circles as well as in the United States itself. These changes, however, were inconsistent and contradictory. On the one hand, the position of those in favor of taking genuine measures for disarmament was strengthened.

On the other hand, opposition and counter-action to these measures also strengthened, on the part of those who are banking on strength and tightening tension in Europe still further.

It is very noticeable that even in such countries as France, which has experienced the woe of World War II, a tendence is currently to be observed among the political circles close to the government to place possibility of a non-nuclear world in doubt. This possibility is placed in doubt above all by referring to the fact that, as it claimed, 40 years of peace in Europe have been ensured by nuclear weapons. If it were not for nuclear weapons, there would allegedly have been war in Europe along with its devastating consequences. It is not true that 40 years without war in Europe have been guaranteed by nuclear weapons. Those years have been ensured and guaranteed by the peace loving foreign policies of the socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union.

There can, of course, be no return to a pre-nuclear world, to the world before World War II. This is not objectively possible. The new non-nuclear world must be based on a new security system, a comprehensive security system, which would be adopted in such a way, with the agreement of all participants, so as to guarantee the security of everyone with a minimal number of conventional weapons.

What are the prospects for such a solution? Reykjavik has shown it is possible to move toward nuclear disarmament, it is really possible to count on such a solution if there is good will on the part of the United States and on the part of the other nuclear powers. Objectively, nuclear weapons can be eliminated. This, I repeat, requires political will, Here is the curious part. I don't know whether you, listeners, have paid any attention to this but there is a problem, the problem of ex-es: ex-generals and ex-political figures, who, retiring from their posts in the government or the army, begin to take up other positions on issues of war and peace than those they held in their official posts. They are opposed to the policy of war and in favor of disarmament and of taking immediate measures that would avert the danger of nuclear war breaking out.

What is this all about? It is, apparently, explained by the fact that, in state service, they come to understand the depth of the contradiction between the actions of the imperialist countries and the real requirements of mankind, people's real needs. They come to understand the necessity for new thinking but, in their official posts, they are bound by discipline, by state discipline. When they retire from these posts, they gain the opportunity to act on the basis of their experience; and act they do. There is an organization, Generals for Peace, which united ex-military figures from the NATO countries and other European and American countries, which is actively in favor of peace. They are in favor of the sort of peace that would guarantee the absence of war, that would, that is, essentially render the military caste unnecessary.

Of course, objective factors come into play here, factors linked to the very nature of nuclear arms and to the very nature of science and technology development in our nuclear age. The new political thinking does not, of course, lie in our claiming we know everything already, we have ready cures or we can already settle our problems on the basis of our 15 January program. Our program is leadership for action. It is, of course, not mere dogma nor something fixed that should not be subject to improvements taking into consideration new circumstances. On the contrary, we imagine that as it is implemented our program should absorb anything progressive mankind is now creating or is being born of contemporary thinking.

I would like, in this connection, to look at the Delhi declaration on a non-nuclear and non-violent world, which was signed during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to New Delhi. This declaration has absorbed many philosophical views of Buddhism, the teaching of which, as much as 2000 years ago, proclaimed a non-violent world. This is natural since a non-violent world answers people's hopes. Cooperation for the sake of achieving such a world is naturally becoming an ever urgent task. Achieving these aims of a non-nuclear, non-violent world is obviously no easy task and of course it requires laborious and protracted work.

However, a powerful factor that will help deal with these tasks is our foreign policy, the policy of the Soviet Union formulated by the 27th CPSU Congress. The congress' program the program of nuclear disarmament and our concrete steps in foreign policy, are a powerful factor influencing the minds of the people of the present. Restructuring the entire life of the Soviet Union is seen as a readiness and determination on the part of the Soviet Union to take the path of also restructuring international relations along the new principles of a non-nuclear and non-violent world.

SAKHAROV ACCEPTS INVITATION TO PEACE CONFERENCE

LD052136 Hamburg DPA in German 2054 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, [Not date as received] (DPA) -- Soviet civil rights activist Andrey Sakharov as accepted the invitation to participate in an international peace and disarmament conference in Moscow in mid-February. The nuclear physicist, who was freed in December after 7 years of exile, confirmed this today in response to a DPA inquiry. Over 700 scientists, politicians, industry representatives and artists will take part in the conference, which is being held from 14 to 16 February. It is intended that, without a set list of speakers, they wil be able to speak in various forums.

Sakharov said that Yevgeniy Velikhov, vice president of the Academy of Sciences, telephoned him on Tuesday and said that although he had not been officially invited to the congress he should consider himself to be "invited in effect." Sakharov was not prepared to say any more about the nature of his participation. He did not know whether he would speak at the conference.

TRUD CITES ADELMAN, LOMEYKO ON NUCLEAR ARMS

PM041227 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian 30 January 1987 carries on page 3 under the "TRUD Discussion Club" rubric a feature entitled "Is It Possible to Curb the Nuclear Monster and Who Is Hindering This?" The feature consists of the full texts of replies by four foreign political and public figures to two questions by TRUD -- "1. Do you believe in the possibility of eliminating nuclear weapons by the year 2000? 2. What, in your opinion, is hindering the beginning of the process of nuclear disarmament?" -- and a commentary on them by USSR special envoy Vladimir Lomeyko.

The first respondent, interviewed by TRUD correspondent V. Sisnev in London, is Norman Willis, general secretary of the British TUC [Trades Union Congress]. He says he believes disarmament by the end of the century is possible and considers that the "chief problem is the entrenched mistrust and tension that are characteristic of international relations."

The second respondent is General Fernand Gambier, director of the French Institute of Military History and member of the presidium of the France-USSR Association, interviewed by own correspondent Ye. Shulyukin in Paris, who says "it is necessary to believe in the possibility of disarmament simply because nuclear war is madness." He claims that "fears in France regarding a 'Soviet threat' are far-fetched," arguing the primary obstacle to disarmament is posed by arms dealers, for whom disarmament spells ruin, but that the "leading personnel of the army also influence the drafting of policy." He lauds confidence-building proposals made by Gorbachev and regrets they have not been heeded in the West. Gorbachev's efforts at Reykjavik were "thwarted by the American side," he claims.

The remainder of the feature is cited in its entirety:

Huang Rujie [subhead]

"Huang Rujie is deputy chief of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions International Affairs Department. He told our Beijing correspondent S. Kuznetsov the following:

"1. I am pleased to be able to express briefly my opinion on the questions of disarmament posed by the Soviet newspaper TRUD.

"The implementation of nuclear disarmament and then the comprehensive prohibition and complete destruction of nuclear weapons are matters of enormous importance affecting the fate and prospects of mankind. They are something for which the workers and the peoples of all countries of the world are tenaciously struggling.

"The Chinese people have suffered considerably from wars and are well aware of the value of peace. At present the people of China are galvanizing all their efforts to carry out the socialist modernization of their country as quickly as possible, and for this peaceful international conditions are required. The working class and the people of PRC fervently love peace, oppose the arms race, and are putting real, unstinting effort into its achievement. During the past International Year of Peace the PRC Government submitted two resolutions to the 41st Session of the UN General Assembly concerned with reducing nuclear and conventional armaments which were approved and adopted by an overwhelming majority of UN members. As part of the peace year PRC trade unions also carried out a number of important events, including an international seminar on the topic 'Trade Unions and Peace.' All this showed once again the sincere desire of the workers of China and the PRC Government to defend peace and oppose the arms race.

"2. In resolving the problem of nuclear disarmament the United States and the Soviet Union, which possess the largest nuclear arsenals in the world, carry special responsibility and must be the first to adopt specific measures. We hope the United States and the USSR will enter into businesslike, practical negotiations on questions of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and will reach agreements detrimental to neither side's interests. That is in accord with the aspirations of all the peoples.

"The practical implementation of nuclear disarmament is a far from easy matter. We are firmly convinced if the workers and working people of all countries unite their efforts and take joint action we can hope that this noble goal -- the comprehensive banning and complete destruction of nuclear weapons -- will be achieved and a nuclear-free world attained.

Kenneth L. Adelman [subhead]

"K. L. Adelman is a prominent figure in the present U.S. Administration and director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Before his appointment to that post he was America's deputy permanent representative at the United Nations. He often expounds official U.S. policy on questions of arms control in the American press and on television. K.L. Adelman spoke to our correspondent in Washington A. Burmistenko."

"1. President Reagan, who regards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons as one of his long-term goals, discussed this question with General Secretary Gorbachev during the meeting in Reykjavik in October 1986. Both leaders expressed at that time their desire to eliminate all nuclear weapons. However, the President noted complete destruction can be achieved only when international political conditions, including the imbalance in conventional arms, have changed substantially.

"Since the end of World War II the Soviet Union has possessed an overwhelming superiority in conventional arms. Mindful of this reality, the United States and its allies consider nuclear weapons an essential means of deterrence.

"Confirmation by all nations of the norms of international conduct laid down in the UN Charter and the Helsinki accords -- renunciation of the use or threat of force, respect for states' territorial integrity, the peaceful resolution of conflicts, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms -- combined with gradual cuts in the whole range of arms achieved through negotiation can in the context of a more defense-based concept of deterrence lead to complete destruction of all nuclear weapons.

"2. The process of nuclear disarmament has already begun in the United States. In the last 20 years the destructive might of American strategic weapons has been enormously reduced. In the last 6 years the United States has withdrawn from its arsenals thousands of units of nuclear weapons and an even larger number of such weapons is due to be scrapped. The United States now has fewer units of weapons in its nuclear arsenal than at any time since 1967.

"President Reagan has proposed a sensible, gradual program of nuclear arms reductions. We and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to a 50 percent cut in U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear arms in the next 3 years.

"As offensive nuclear weapons are cut both the United States and the Soviet Union could mutually switch over to defense-based deterrence. During this transitional period deterrence could be ensured by progressively lower levels of nuclear weapons provided these weapons are retained in case of a preemptive strike.

"Complete nuclear disarmament is feasible. It requires courage, resolve, and imagination -- qualitites which are possessed in full measure by the USSR and U.S. peoples. It also requires concrete actions signifying the most serious political commitments, including the restoration of equilibrium in conventional armaments.

Vladimir Lomeyko [subhead]

"The replies by the foreign figures to TRUD's questionnaire are commented on here at our request by special envoy Vladimir Lomeyko.

"You have in front of you, readers, four replies to two questions which worry all kinds of people in all countries of the world. They are not without interest for us for various reasons: First, the broad geographical sweep -- the United States, Europe, and China. Moreover, they are from countries which possess nuclear weapons. Second, the representative standing of the respondents, who speak with knowledge of the facts and not just on their own behalf. Third, the cross-section of views -- which is itself also an answer to the question asked.

"Three of the replies -- those of the French general and academic F. Gambier, the leader of the British trade unions N. Willis, and the Chinese trade union leader Huang Rujie -- express a belief in the need for nuclear disarmament and for efforts to be made to overcome the barriers to this, particularly mistrust, international tension, and the opposition of the military-industrial complex. Public opinion polls in various countries show that most people share such views.

"It is typical that K. Adelman should be out on his own here; Not just because he, compared to the other participants in the discussion, adopts a particular stance. That is natural once you consider he represents the U.S. Administration, and its stance is pretty well known. There is another thing, I, for example, feel awkward about in terms both of the answers and the respondent himself. He patently wants, as once used to be said, to retain his innocence while acquiring capital. This desire is very obvious. Hence the sense of awkwardness.

"According to Adelman, the Soviet Union is virtually solely responsible for the maintenance of nuclear armaments because of its 'overwhelming superiority' in conventional arms.

"Whom are these spurious arguments intended for? After all, the fact the USSR has no superiority, including no superiority in conventional arms, has already been publicly acknowledged since Reykjavik by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and White House Chief of Staff Reagan. Not to mention the fact it is the USSR and its allies which have proposed there be cuts in the next few years in NATO and Warsaw Pact states' armed forces of 1 million men together with corresponding arms cuts. As folk wisdom has it: Those who, do; those who don't, seek pretexts.

"K. Adelman's answer to the second question can be misleading if you are unaware the reductions in the units of nuclear weapons in the United States have each time involved obsolete atomic bombs or charges which were acknowledged to be of low efficiency or even dangerous to the Americans themselves. As a result, thanks to the drastic increase in the number and accuracy of U.S. nuclear combat charges, the number of targets in our country has quadrupled since the sixties. If you take the most important element -- the number of charges on strategic delivery vehicles -- the picture is that the USSR has 10,000, while the United States has 14,800.

"Speaking about the possibility of nuclear disarmament, K. Adelman stresses that it requires 'courage, resolve, and imagination.' On whose part? After all, M.S. Gorbavhev has displayed all these qualities in putting forward a specific program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. If the U.S., side had responded likewise, mankind would already have begun the march toward a nuclear-free world. It is the United States from which the world public and the peoples now await 'courage, resolve, and imagination,' but not in inventing various excuses and subterfuges but in real deeds aimed at real nuclear disarmament."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON RECKLESS U.S. POLICY

PM041905 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Vasiliy Pustov "Observer's Opinion" article: "Fatal Recklessness"]

[Text] Something has happened that is regarded as an ostentatious challenge to the increased sense of responsibility of the peoples and governments of all countries for the future of the world. Something against which people's common sense and natural desire to survive and to preserve life itself on earth rebels.

During the 18-month unilateral Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions, the United States carried out 24 nuclear explosions. The 25th was the test on 3 February, codenamed "Hazebrook." Every underground nuclear explosion at the testing range in Nevada was invariably accompanied by an explosion of indignation and angry protests on all continents, including America itself because every underground explosion reminds people of the growing threat of nuclear apocalypse and undermines their faith in the possibility of preventing it.

"Hazebrook" was further graphic evidence of the American administration's cynical hypocrisy, and exposed all the falsity of its peacemaking expatiations. Let us recall that on setting off for Reykjavik to meet with M.S. Gorbachev, President R. Reagan stated he intends "ultimately to achieve a total nuclear test ban," and that he is "fully determined to take practical steps toward this goal in the near future." As we can see, "steps" were taken, but in precisely the opposite direction, toward a further escalation of the nuclear arms race.

There is also a false ring to the White House incumbent's repeated assurances that his ultimate goal is a world free from nuclear weapons. When it comes to the point, it has always turned out this is a case reminiscent of the popular saying: Not everyone says what they think. However, to be fair, let us note there are also people -- very influential people -- in the U.S. Administration whose deeds do not diverge from their words. What words, what deeds! It isn't without reason that the notorious C. Weinberger, the defense secretary, is described as a "committed opponent to any agreements with the USSR." He has come out repeatedly against the idea of a nuclear-free world, attaching highly unflattering epithets to it.

Washington today makes no secret of the fact the explosions in Nevada are not being conducted solely to build up and improve the American nuclear arsenal, although that should not, of course, be left out of consideration. In the years since the atom bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the United States, according to unofficial calculations, has manufactured 60,000 nuclear warheads of more than 70 types. Now the total stockpile of nuclear warheads there is more than 26,000.

U.S. experts acknowledge that without nuclear tests it is impossible to create such types of sophisticated new weapons as, for instance, nuclear-pumped x-ray lasers. The Pentagon needs these weapons to implement the "Star Wars" program, the purpose of which, as THE WASHINGTON POST admits, is "the prospect of new fairytale wealth for the military-industrial complex." Such wealth for the major death merchants across the ocean requires the carrying out of six more nuclear explosions in the next few months. For the SDI program as a whole it is planned to carry out between 500 and 1,000 nuclear tests.

Highly significant too is the time chosen for the latest act of madness confirming the U.S. Administration's pernicious course toward confrontation. Washington was in such a hurry it saw fit to switch the explosion from 5 February, as previously planned, to 3 February. The intention was not only to avoid protests by the people, but also to pre-empt the vote on the draft resolution submitted by Congressmen Gephardt and Schroeder envisaging no more funds for the U.S. programs of nuclear tests with a yield of over one kiloton as long as the Soviet Union continues to observe its moratorium. Even in the United States nuclear tests are becoming so unpopular more than 120 members of the House of Representatives have declared their support for the draft resolution.

The disgraceful act occurred in Nevada also at a time when the world public and prominent politicians and statesmen of many countries, including capitalist countries, are still pondering deeply on the historic decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January plenum. Foreign commentators stress the plenum's society's activity enables other governments to continue to forecast with 100-percent reliability and confidence the peaceful foreign policy of the USSR and its constructive course toward eliminating the nuclear threat and developing stable and mutually advantageous cooperation with all states.

The Soviet Union is a staunch advocate of the total cessation of all nuclear tests as a most important paramount measure in the matter of attaining the chief goal -- curbing the nuclear arms race and the subsequent elimination of nuclear arms. Convincing evidence of this was the repeatedly extended unilateral Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions. It has been strictly observed for 18 months, despite the considerable cost the USSR has borne in the sphere of its own security.

Washington has again crudely demonstrated its reluctance to join the Soviet moratorium. The nuclear explosions in Nevada are an element in the U.S. policy geared to acquiring military superiority over the Soviet Union and over the socialist countries. On 3 February the U.S. rulers, continuing to operate in terms of military force and rejecting the new political thinking which is needed in our anxious times, again rejected yet another opportunity to curb the exceedingly dangerous nuclear arms race.

The situation is the Soviet Union cannot display unilateral restraint and infinitum without harming its own security and the security of its allies. As is known, last December the Soviet Government stated: Our country will resume nuclear tests after the first U.S. nuclear explosion in 1987. It was a decision that had to be taken and it cannot be ignored.

LOMEYKO ON 'CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION' ON RIGHTS

LD131144 Budapest MTI in English 1106 GMT 13 Feb 87

[Text] Geneva, February 13 (MTI) -- The Soviet Union strives for constructive cooperation with other countries in the field of human rights, too. On the one hand, the cause, with the assertion of individual rights, can only be served by an objective atmosphere, mutual understanding and learning from one another's experience. On the other hand, any political confrontation is harmful to the cause, Ambassador Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the Soviet delegation to the Geneva session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, said to an MTI correspondent.

The Soviet Union holds the position that it is first of all the task of the individual countries to assert human rights. It is a process in which the states make sovereign decisions but may study and take over one another's positive experiences. The Soviet Union is also prepared to do so. Any obviously politically-motivated accusations, however, are only hindering the solution to the problems, and the interests of the aggrieved will not be served, if cooperation is rendered more difficult.

Current changes in the Soviet Union are followed with keen attention in the commission, too, and the overwhelming majority of the delegates noted them with satisfaction, Lomeyko said. As to the release of a group of people convicted in the USSR for offences against the law, the Soviet ambassador stated: Those people had not been convicted for their individual ideas, but for the production and spreading of illegal publications and other acts of violating the criminal code. As against Western allegations, such persons number hundreds and not thousands, and the cases will be sorted out continuously, with a short time. In addition, the Soviet Union, in accordance with the recommendations of the all-European conference held in Berne, has modified its statutory provisions concerning travels, family reunification and emigration. This year there will be much more trips than earlier. The revision of the criminal code and the elimination of bureaucracy related to travels is in progress, Ambassador Lomeyko said. Finally, he expressed the hope that the Geneva session which is to last a month, will be marked by the spirit of cooperation, rather than that of political confrontation.

U.S. JUSTIFICATION OF RIGHTS ABUSE 'UNCONVINCING'

LD120029 Moscow TASS in English 1951 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Vienna Feburary 11 TASS -- A group of prominent Soviet lawyers who came here to familiarize themselves with the deliberations of the meeting of states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, had a talk with the U.S. delegation at the Vienna meeting. They described realization by the Soviet Union of the Helsinki and Madrid understandings and processes of democratizing Soviet society, taking place in our country. It was pointed out that the reorganization, including the legal sphere, which was under way in the USSR, was a logic process and was being realized in the interests of all people. The importance of juridical values and demands for strict observance of Soviet laws will increasingly grow.

The U.S. side which is emphatically critical in Vienna of the observance of human rights by other countries, could say virtually nothing to the Soviet lawyers of how the USA was realizing understandings reached in Helsinki and Madrid. The U.S. side made unconvincing attempts to justify somehow mass violations of human rights in the USA, as well as the situation of fanning up mistrust among nations and inculcation in Americans' minds of the "image" of an enemy, which clearly runs counter to the Helsinki understandings.

Describing relations between Soviet and U.S. lawyers, Aleksandr Sukharev, president of the Soviet Lawyers Association and justice minister of the Russian Federation, noted that they were of positive nature on the whole. This concerns above all cooperation between Soviet and U.S. lawyers associations. He pointed out that the cooperation provided a good chance for joint actions within the European process and for the cause of improving the climate in Soviet-American relations.

The Soviet delegation also includes professors Samuil Zivs and Tair Tairov.

GROMYKO MESSAGE TO ARTS, SPORTS FESTIVAL

LD111114 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS -- Follows the full text of a message of greetings sent by Andrey Gromyko, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the participants in and guests of the international arts and sports festival Rendezvous-87:

"I am sending cordial greetings to the participants in and guests of the international arts and sports festival Rendezvous-87, which has brought together people from the Soviet Union, the United States and Canada.

You have come to Quebec to shake hands, share achievements of national cultures and vie in an honest ice hockey contest. It is such honest competition, the matching of traditions, experience and customs of different peoples and direct human contacts that are making an invaluable contribution to the building of international understanding and trust, so needed today."

"The slogan of your festival, arts and sport for peace, meets the aspirations of the Soviet people. Our ideal is a world without wars or weapons, in which the right to life is called upon to become the paramount and most sacred right of all people in the world. It is at this lofty goal, the building of a nuclear weapon-free world and guaranteed security for all mankind, that we direct our thoughts and practical actions.

Today no one has the right to stay aloof from the most important problem of our time, the establishment of a lasting world peace for the present and succeeding generations. It is our profound conviction that a solution to this problem should be sought through collective responsibility and collective efforts.

May your festival become a demonstration of a commitment to peace and progress.

I wish you happiness and every success.

Andrey Gromyko"

PAPER ON CONGRESSIONAL DIVISIONS ON MORATORIUM

PM101119 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS Washington correspondent I. Ignatyev dispatch: "American Legislators Split on Problem of Banning Nuclear Tests" -- first four paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Congress Appeals to White House [subhead]

Last 18 December 130 members of the U.S. House of Representatives sent President R. Reagan a letter. It says notably that "The introduction now of a moratorium on nuclear tests with the right of inspection [inspektsiya] could form the basis for concluding a treaty with the Soviet Union which would put an end once and for all to all tests of nuclear weapons. Consequently, we urge you to act now and give a signal to the whole world that the United States is sincerely interested in ending all nuclear tests."

The moratorium bill introduced for the House's examination on 6 January this year stresses that "Congress considers that a mutual and verifiable [poddayushchiysya proverke] moratorium on tests of nuclear warheads on the part of the United States and the Soviet Union would make a decisive first step toward mutual reductions of nuclear arms."

The White House remains deaf to these appeals.

Indignation is the feeling our readers are registering in their countless telephone calls and letters to the editorial office over the latest U.S. nuclear explosion in Nevada. Many people are asking how the American public has regarded this foolhardy step by its government. We asked TASS Washington correspondent to reply to that question. His report follows:

Washington -- An improvised press conference was arranged the other day without the notification usual in such cases. Democrat Representatives Patricia Schroeder and Richard Gephardt came to the House of Representatives press gallery immediately after the end of a session of Democratic members of the lower house.

Such meetings, which discuss the line to be fought on a given issue on Capitol Hill, are traditionally held jointly with the session. It is not always even reported what the legislators have been examining. This session was a special one; the subject of its discussion was known long before it began: The Democrats in Congress were discussing their stance on the moratorium on nuclear explosions.

P. Schroeder and R. Gephardt are responsible for the draft resolution listed in the congressional records as H-R 12. The resolution provides for the introduction in the United States of a ban on nuclear tests with a yield in excess of 1 kiloton if the Soviet Union continues its moratorium. More than 140 congressmen had already declared their determination to support the document, Patricia Schroeder reported. According to her, their number had shown a marked increase since the nuclear explosion on 3 February -- the 1st this year and the 25th since the Soviet moratorium came into effect. This step by the Soviet Union, the congresswoman from Colorado said, has created "one of the greatest opportunities for the process of arms control." "The Russians have not conducted a single test for 18 months, and even administration representatives acknowledge that we are ahead in this sphere," she stated.

"Ending tests," Richard Gephardt added, "would lead to a lessening of the danger of nuclear weapons being used. We must seek to strengthen security by sensible measures such as an agreement banning nuclear arms or a strategic arms limitation treaty. Whatever the President may say, I consider his policy a course leading toward a full-scale arms race."

Democrats in Congress have supported this stance. The session endorsed a document urging the President to postpone new nuclear explosions and urgently begin talks with the Soviet Union to achieve a mutual and verifiable [poddayushchiysya proverke] ban on nuclear weapons tests.

The document is said to have been unanimously endorsed. As the press secretary of Thomas Downey, Democratic congressman for New York, ironically remarked to me, the opponents of this measure inside the Democratic Party decided not to appear at all at the session.

One such opponent is Republican Gerald Solomon. He is a convinced opponent of the United States following the Soviet Union's good example. Seated commandingly at his desk, behind him the flags of the United States and New York -- whose electors he represents on Capitol Hill -- the gray-haired legislator explained his stance:

"I think there have been serious breaches of various agreements by the Soviet Union. In some cases they were, in my opinion, deliberate, in others not, and in a third group the question of whether the breaches were deliberate or not has hinged on the interpretation of the agreements. Take, for example, the Krasnoyarsk radar station. We regard its construction as a breach of the ABM Treaty, whereas the Soviet Union does not. It is possible this is a legitimate argument. However, such things do exist.

"Here I have a list of Soviet breaches" — he then showed me a copy of a White House propaganda pamphlet about "Soviet breaches" of accords in the arms control sphere, peppered with words like "possibly" and "perhaps." "There are breaches in virtually every aspect. I do not believe we can have any kind of moratorium until treaties are concluded that provide for on-site inspection [proverka] either by USSR or U.S. representatives or through the intermediaries of third countries to ensure they are respected. Otherwise, we will always have to rely on the other side's word, but we interpret things differently. That is why we must sit down at the negotiating table in Geneva or Vienna and discuss a really mutual, verifiable [poddayushchiysya proverke] treaty on a moratorium that provides for on-site inspection [proverka]. I want to say, using the words of President Reagan -- and I do not believe anyone could be more sincere than he -- the goal must be to remove all nuclear arms."

"Why then," I asked, "does the White House, despite the USSR's readiness to adopt any kind of verification [kontrol] measures, including on-site inspection [proverka], and despite the Soviet Union's strict observance of a unilateral moratorium over 18 months, state it does not intend to renounce nuclear tests?"

"Because there is no treaty banning nuclear tests. The Soviet Union, as you know, insists that we abandon the 'Strategic Defense Initiative,' which, in my opinion, does not bear the character of a nuclear program but is to the benefit of both sides. This stance shows again the insincerity of the Soviet Union, which links SDI -- that is to say, a quite irrelevant question -- to agreements. [paragraph continues]

We cannot put ourselves in a position where the United States may fall behind just because the Soviet Union has not held nuclear tests for 18 months. Nuclear arms reduction is the main problem. Forget the nuclear moratorium! We must sit around the negotiating table and lay our cards on it. We will not achieve anything by nuclear test bans or the like. The main task is to rid ourselves of terrible nuclear arms."

This "judgment of Solomon" is, to put it mildly, lifted from official statements made by the Reagan administration.

Democratic Congressman for the State of Massachusetts Joseph Kennedy, son of Robert Kennedy -- who was assassinated by a hired gunman -- is the representative of an influential political clan in America. He met me with a smile and firm handshake at the entrance to the as yet unfurnished official office which has been his since the U.S. supreme legislative elections last November.

"I am convinced," said the 34-year-old politician, who was one of the first signatories of Resolution H-R 12, "that our stance now reflects to a larger extent the mood of the American people. This was confirmed at the recent elections. The members of Congress who came through the election battle have a better feel for the mood of ordinary Americans. They are indignant that the President opposes a nuclear test ban. The impressive demonstration of a new type of leadership being given by Mikhail Gorbachev and the readiness to ban nuclear tests demonstrated by the Soviet Union, to which the U.S. response has been 25 nuclear explosions, have also played a role in developing these feelings. Both I and my constituents are outraged by the administration's approach. Nuclear tests are an integral part of the 'Star Wars' program which the present administration is pushing through, and my constituents are very resolutely opposed to SDI. We think we will be able to achieve an end to nuclear tests in the United States by prohibiting the financing of further nuclear tests.

"It is well known there are various standpoints in the United States on how to build relations with the Soviet Union," the congressman continued. "Some people think that affairs can only be conducted with the USSR from a position of strength. Others are ready to observe certain agreements until there are actual breaches of those treaties. Everyone acknowledges the danger of nuclear war breaking out. We have already stockpiled enough arms to blow each other up. The time has come therefore for effective disarmament measures. The time has come to think about the kind of direction we are moving in when we possess the potential not only to destroy each other but to iliminate the whole world. It is important to conduct affairs by attempting to find points of contact and by seeking to establish long-term relations rather than by adopting extreme positions."

Yes, the split in the Congress itself and in relations between the country's supreme legislative organ and the administration is becoming increasingly apparent. The polarization of political forces caused by the explosion in Nevada could lead to a major clash between the Congress, where there is now a Democrat majority, and the Republican adminstration.

U.S. PRACTICES HUMAN RIGHTS DOUBLE STANDARD

PM111515 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 87 First Edition p 4

[N. Kurdyumov article: "Why They Are Avoiding an Answer"]

[Text] Characterizing the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum in Moscow as an "event which will go down in history," Britain's THE OBSERVER wrote recently: "Is it not time for the West to organize its own little 'restructuring' of relations with the Soviet Union by abandoning the conventional stereotypes and beginning, for example, with a constructive reply to certain proposals by Moscow in the arms control sphere."

To that reasonable view it is appropriate to add that it has also long been time for the West to adopt a constructive approach to the solution of other questions which have a direct bearing on the improvement of relations between states and to the creation of a reliable system of international security to ensure mankind's survival in the nuclear missile age. Surely, for example, the time has come to turn aside from the well-trodden road of propaganda and political confrontation on questions connected with the solution of complex problems in the sphere of safeguarding human rights in the modern world.

The Soviet Union's stance on this score is clear and definite. Our country firmly and consistently advocates that the urgent human problems be resolved in a humane way, on a truly humanitarian basis and that people, wherever they live, be guaranteed the right to life, work, and equality before the law. That is why at the United Nations and other international forums the Soviet Union resolutely supports efforts aimed against racial and other forms of discrimination and the excessive enrichment of some at the expense of others and attaches great significance to the seventh principle of the Helsinki Final Act on the respect of human rights and basic freedoms, including freedom of thought, conscience, religion and beliefs.

Since quite a few problems of humanitarian cooperation have built up in the world, all requiring close attention, the Soviet Union has proposed that a representative conference be held in Moscow within the framework of the all-European process with the aim of discussing the whole range of questions on human rights and basic freedoms, be they civil, political, or socio-economic rights. To discuss them objectively, without bias, in a principled way, and with the emphasis on practical solutions, which would make it possible to improve the situation in the humanitarian sphere in all countries; in other words, to conduct matters on the principles of equality, in a constructive way, and not in the hope of scoring propaganda points. Here, of course, "double standards" are unacceptable; that is, on the one hand claiming for oneself the role of arbiter on human rights questions and trying to teach others what to do and, on the other hand, closing one's eyes to the situation at home.

There is an obvious need for serious and responsible dialogue on the whole humanitarian theme in the spirit of strengthening mutual respect and confidence. After all, on the human rights issue there are no aspects of greater or lesser importance, all are equally important: for example, the situation on safeguarding the right to social insurance and racial and national equality; and the solution of questions connected with contacts among people and freedom from persecution for one's views or beliefs.

Western politicians cannot deny, for instance, that the right to work and to family security is one of the most inalienable human rights and that tens of millions of people in West European countries and the United States are presently deprived of that right.

The question of man's right to health protection is equally topical in a number of countries. Even the U.S. President recalled that fact, by the way, when he declared in the recent State of the Union address to Congress that elderly Americans are haunted by the "fear of illness which may prove so costly that a man may be forced to make the intolerable choice between bankruptcy and death." To that it may be added: Is it only the elderly who are haunted by that fear?

The Soviet side will also be prepared to examine the housing problem, the human right to housing, at the all-European humanitarian conference, especially since President Reagan touched on that question in the State of the Union address when declaring with his customary style that... the fact that "virtually one Soviet family in three lives without hot water" demonstrates the USSR's aggressiveness.

Very well, let's discuss that problem, too. At present we indeed do not have enough housing, especially housing equipped with all the modern conveniences. At the same time let us talk about the reasons for the sharp increase in the number of homeless in the United States, which for over a century has known neither war nor devastation on its territory. Let us also talk about much else, including specific instances of the arbitrary and harsh treatment of innocent people, to which the U.S. authorities prefer to shut their eyes. Soviet people, for example, are deeply alarmed by the fate of people like Leonard Peltier, Johnny Harris, and many other human rights compaigners, languishing in jail on trumped-up charges, and by the harrassment and persecution of antiwar activists and labor unionists.

Surely, is there not the most direct connection between human rights and the racial and national segregation and discrimination rife in a number of Western countries, above all the United States? Or intolerance toward dissidents, the "fear of freedom of speech," as THE NEW YORK TIMES characterizes the McCarran-Walter Act, permeated with the spirit of McCarthyism, on whose basis the State Department refuses hundreds of visas a year to foreigners whose way of thinking displeases the U.S. authorities? Is it not worthy of attention, for instance, that according to the estimates of Jewish social organizations 944 anti-semitic attacks were committed in 34 states in 1985 alone, in 306 cases connected with assaults on people?

In brief, the meeting proposed by the Soviet Union for states belonging to the All-European conference will have serious and profound matters to discuss and things to think about so long as there is a real desire to work constructively to improve the situation in the humanitarian sphere. It is patently obvious that it is bad if human rights are being infringed; the situation must be rectified, as the Soviet Union urges.

Here is a surprise! It only needed the Soviet side to suggest a business-like conference for Washington to beat a hasty retreat. The U.S. Secretary of State's attitude on this question, voiced after 3 months' deliberation, is noteworthy. In an interview on Worldnet, George Shultz remarked that he considers the human rights problem to be one of the "crucial elements" of the all-European process on security and cooperation. Then, without pausing for breath, he stated that he finds Moscow's proposal "strange."

The U.S. Secretary of State is showing some inconsistency here. How? On the one hand he calls the human rights problem the "crucial element," while on the other he finds the idea of the comprehensive discussion of this problem "strange." [paragraph continues]

Is this an expression of George Shultz's fear that if the discussion of this important and topical theme is approached in an honest way it will reveal the hypocrisy and demagogic nature of the West's accusations against the socialist countries? Or is it a veiled attempt to bury the very idea of a conference? Whichever the answer, the stance of the leader of the foreign policy department of a great power who is trying to avoid answering urgent questions and vamosse seems shaky to say the very least.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON U.S. 'IMPERIAL DISDAIN'

PM111001 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Aleksandr Golts "Military-political review": "Following the Laws of the Jungle"]

[Text] The American magazine NEWSWEEK has written, not without some irritation, that the inhabitants of many countries see the United States as an "800-pound gorilla brandishing weapons and prepared to furiously sweep away everything in its path." This comparison is of course unjust if we are talking about the American people themselves. It is true, however that a country is often judged by the policy pursued by its government.

The course pursued by Washington is causing just such associations. The week's events have once again convincingly demonstrated the imperial disdain with which the U.S. ruling circles regard the will of other peoples, as well as that of their own, and how flagrantly they flout accepted standards of behaviour in the international arena.

The 25th Step Toward the Abyss [subhead]

A nuclear test was conducted at the Nevada test range on 3 February. It was the 25th such test since the introduction of the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions. "It was a minor explosion, which is why the population were not given prior notification," a test site spokesman told journalists, as if nothing of moment had happened.

I do not know, but perhaps this time the buildings of Las Vegas really did not feel any tremor. What I do know is this "minor" explosion did shake and anger the whole world. Here are just two opinions out of many that have rattled off the editorial office's teleprinters. Kevin McNamara, member of the British Labor Party shadow cabinet, described this explosion as an "ignominious political step carried out in the spirit of the cold war." "The people of Japan are deeply outraged that the United States has ostentatiously carried out a nuclear explosion," Mayor of Hiroshima T. Araki stated.

It is impossible not to share this sense of outrage, given the offhand way Washington dashed the hopes of mankind that the shortest possible route to a nuclear-free world would be opened up. As people are aware, on extending its moratorium for the fifth time our country warned that it would exist until the first American nuclear explosion in 1987.

During the 18 months of silence on the Soviet test sites the objections to the moratorium raised by the U.S. Administration have been analyzed in the closest detail. [paragraph continues]

The facts have convincingly shown the utter absurdity of claims that the USSR is ahead of the United States in numbers of nuclear tests conducted. The absolute untenability of claims that it is impossible to control. [kontrol] or even necessary to check [proverka] existing weapons has also been demonstrated.

As the far-feteched reasons have disappeared, the true reason has become increasingly clear -- namely, the U.S. ruling circles' unbridled desire to secure military superiority. New kinds of weapons are also being developed [razrabotka] in pursuit of this chimerical goal. The explosions in Nevada serve as a kind of ignition key to the infernal machine of the arms race.

The main point to bear in mind is that the "Star Wars" program, on which Washington pins its hopes of securing military superiority, cannot be implemented without nuclear explosions. It is symbolic that on the very day the United States took its 25th nuclear step along this route the President assembled the national security planning group in the White House. The conference discussed Pentagon chief Weinberger's proposal to speed up the phased deployment of SDI. According to U.S. journalists, the head of the U.S. military department considers that the "United States can deploy certain of these weapons systems, including space battle stations, as early as 1994." Gain what we have is not just an absence of basic commonsense, which suggests that placing weapons on outer space undermines the security of everyone and makes control [kontrol] over nuclear weapons impossible.

What we also have is the United States' complete disregard of its commitments, since the implementation of SDI leads to the destruction of one of the most important USSR-U.S. treaties -- the Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems.

It would be mistaken to think the U.S. Administration regards only treaties concluded with the Soviet Union in this casual way. Its attitude to agreements signed with dozens of other U.S. 5th Army Corps has been holding the "Caravan Guard" exercise in the FRG Lands of Hessen and Bavaria for 2 weeks, involving approximately 23,000 servicemen. You might think this was ordinary troop training. Reporting on "Caravan Guard," the magazine DER SPIEGEL draws this conclusion: "Judging by all accounts, the U.S. Administration is not taking seriously the agreements achieved at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament, which demand that all participating countries give prior notification to one another of certain kinds of military activity."

The magazine points out that, despite the pressing request of FRG Foreign Minister Genscher, the United States refused to announce the start of the exercise in advance or to invite Warsaw Pact representatives. This was done solely on the pretext that the maneuvers had been planned before the Stockholm conference ended and therefore "do not come under the accord." In reality, however, according to DER SPIEGEL, the United States "fears" some of its military secrets will be revealed.

Be that as it may, it is nevertheless quite clear that it does undermine the spirit of the accords, whose essence is absolutely clear, namely, to build confidence in Europe. What we have here is also an arrogant disregard by Washington of the opinion of a very close ally.

These and many other facts show that in resolving virtually all military and political questions Washington continues to operate from a position of strength and endeavors to secure superiority for itself. [paragraph continues]

These attempts, as M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his recent conversation with a delegation of the American Council on International Relations, are futile and harmful to the world community.

Sinister Anachronism [subhead]

It was pointed out at that same meeting the desire to subordinate other countries and exploit their resources is a sinister anachronism which is dangerous to civilization. Today this anachronism of American policy goes under the name of "neoglobalism."

The situation surrounding Lebanon has sharply deteriorated in recent days. The facts are well known: One of the extremist groups operating in Beirut has taken three American citizens hostage. Washington has seen this as a convenient excuse for moving up toward the Lebanese coast a powerful naval grouping, including 2 aircraft carriers, 31 escort vessels, and assault craft carrying around 4,000 Marines.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, the groups' command possesses detailed plans for striking installations in Lebanon. It all looks even more sinister once you remember Secretary of State G. Shultz has bluntly threatened "retribution for the seizure of hostages."

This is not the first time the United States has tried to punish a country on the pretext of "fighting terrorism." Let us recall the bandit-like invasion of Grenada, the shelling of the Lebanese seaboard by the heavy guns of the battleship "New Jersey," and last year's bombing of peaceful Libyan cities. It is clear a similar "act of intimidation" is now being prepared against Lebanon.

This is so obvious that even very close allies -- Canada, the FRG, France, Britain, and Japan -- have hastened to distance themselves from Washington's gendarme actions. They have refused to take part in a "conference on terrorism" which the U.S. administration tried to organize. It has been stated that it would be inappropriate to hold it in the light of the Pentagon's clear preparations to strike against Lebanon.

As for the fate of the people seized by extremists, it seems to me that Washington is not unduly worried by their fate. Clearly France's LE MATIN is correct when it says a punitive operation, even if it results in the hostages suffering, would suit the White House down to the ground.

After all, apart from everything else, such a development of events would give Washington officialdom the opportunity to divert the public's attention from the ever-growing scandal caused by the secret supplies of American weapons to Iran and the use of the revenue earned to finance the undeclared war against Nicaragua.

Amerika versus Americans [subhead]

The fact that it is precisely now, when the United States is conducting itself in so unbridled a way in the international arena, it is intended to screen on the country's television sets the multipart junk movie "Amerika" is highly predictable. For 14 and 1/2 hours the U.S. population will be shown the "horrors of Soviet occupation": The killing of unarmed civilians, the destruction of the Capitol building, concentration camps, and so on and so forth.

All this vileness is designed to convince Americans it is better to stockpile nuclear arms, deploy the "Star Wars" program, and elevate terrorism to the status of state policy than to "disarm" and undergo "Soviet occupation." "Amerika" is aimed not so much at the Soviet Union as at Americans. Its aim is to utterly intimidate the American people and deprive them of any critical view of the adventurist policy which is pursued by the White House today and which threatens the security of the United States itself.

Our country's constructive policy stands in striking contrast to these attempts. We are not building a wall of hatred between the USSR and the United States. On the contrary, the USSR states its readiness to hold talks on all questions and to seek mutually acceptable solutions. I again refer to M.S. Gorbachev's recent conversation with the delegation of the American Council on International Relations. It included people whose names have appeared more than once in the pages of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Our readers know they are, to put it mildly, far from being friends of the USSR. The Soviet leadership considers it fundamentally important that we also conduct a dialogue with these conservative figures on the need for new political thinking in our nuclear age, an age which requires coolness, accurate assessment, and abandonment of the policy of force.

This is the only kind of approach with a future.

USSR 'MENACE' MOTIVATES SHULTZ' AID REQUEST

LD121013 Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 12 TASS -- Assistance to foreign states is regarded by Washington chiefly as a means of fulfilling U.S. aggressive designs in different regions of the world and building up tension in explosive areas. This is also evidenced by a statement made on Wednesday by Secretary of State George Shultz in one of the subcommittees of the U.S. Congress to explain to the legislators the administration's request for foreign assistance funds for the 1988 fiscal year.

The White House asked 15.2 billion dollars for this purpose. Almost one-third of the sum is intended for two states -- Israel, the main strategic ally of the USA in the Middle East, and Egypt. 2.1 billion dollars are intended for 4 NATO countries -- Spain, Portugal, Greece and Turkey. 1.4 billion dollars are to go to the countries of Central America and the Caribbean Basin which support Washington's aggressive policy towards Nicaragua. It is planned to allocate a total of 678 million dollars for military and economic aid to Pakistan which is being used by the USA as a place d'armes for waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan.

Motivating the administration's request for funds George Shultz spoke of an alleged "Soviet strategic menace to the USA and its allies" and the need to be ready to check this threat in different regions of the world. It is not for the first time that the administration is trying to justify the allocation of billions of dollars for military and economic aid for explosive and strategically important regions of the world by references to the menace allegedly coming from the USSR. Trying to justify the emphasis laid by Washington on the military aspect of the foreign assistance programme, the secretary of state said: "Americans have sometimes tended to think that power and diplomacy are two distinct and conflicting alternatives in our dealings abroad. But power and diplomacy are not contradictory. They are complementary. Both are necessary in reinforcing components of our national security strategy."

BELYAYEV: 'PROVOCATIVE' U.S. BUILDUP OFF LEBANON

PM111530 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russia 11 Feb 87 p 9

[Igor Belyayev "Observer's Opinion" article: "Deliberate Provocation"]

[Text] Why did President Reagan need to undertake clearly provocative actions in recent weeks? For instance, to hastily concentrate naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean? Perhaps tomorrow the U.S. Marines will land in Lebanon, where the orgy of hostage-taking continues? But no, they will not land. Beirut is not the place to go at the moment. Will a landing by the U.S. Marines on the Lebanese coast lead to an end to hostage-taking? No, it will not. In fact, American units have already been to Lebanon. Quite recently, in 1982, the Yankees landed, but in 1984 they fled. Yes, fled, which, incidentally, saved President Reagan from the political costs which he would otherwise have had to bear...

So why did Reagan give the order to the U.S. Navy to take "assault positions" in the northern part of the Persian Gulf? And to start bringing an aircraft carrier group up to the Arabian Sea? Perhaps the United States is going to start a war with Iran in the next few days? No, it is not going to declare war on Iran or land U.S. Marines on the Iranian coast.

What about Secretary of State G. Shultz? the reader will ask. Recently, as if with the intention of destroying his aura of a restrained U.S. politician, he has been making one aggressive statement after another. First he called Lebanon a "plaque." Then he accused the extremists who seized the hostages in Beirut of having links with Iran. Why did the U.S. secretary of state do that? To cure Lebanon of the "plague"? Or to create a casus belli for an attack on Iran? No, there will be no U.S.-Lebanon war and no U.S.-Iran war. Not in any circumstances!

But Ronald Reagan, George Bush, George Shultz, and Caspar Weinberger do want to exacerbate the military-political situation in the Near and Middle East. I have deliberately named the names of the champions of U.S. big politics. They all, albeit to differing degrees, are tainted by "Irangate" -- the scandal over secret American weapon deliveries to Iran. This scandal is continuing, although some people might think it is gradually being forgotten. It is not forgotten! It was precisely to suppress "Irangate" that the show of U.S. military force in the region was needed. If only the ordinary American, who likes it when anything short of nuclear weapons is used supposedly to defend him, would succumb to yet another chauvinist campaign and once again shout "hurrah" to the current President, whose popularity has fallen drastically. So some people in the United States called for war to be declared on both Lebanon and Iran!

The shows of American force in the Near and Middle East also help to tackle another far from simple task. Afghanistan! The United States is most unwilling to tolerate -- at least at present -- a settlement of the problems around, and that means within, that country. Even if Pakistan responds to Kabul's proposal on resolving the Afghan-Pakistani problems. So encourage the Afghan counterrevolution! Even if this means with the help of the U.S. Navy. Risky though it may be... Those Washington politicians who make U.S. policy in that geographical region, which adjoins the Soviet Union's southern borders, still adhere to their former principles -- until such time as the United States is back in Iran, hold on to the so-called "Afghan back door." Use it against Moscow.

Finally, two more big tasks can be seen in the present provocative U.S. actions. In the Persian Gulf a show of U.S. strength, Washington hopes, will embitter Iran and add to its strength in the offensive against Iraq, which could also be used in U.S. interests. A parade of U.S. might in the eastern Mediterranean, in the event of a favorable turn of events, could push Israeli Prime Minister Shamir and other Israeli hawks into a war against Syria, whose growing defense might "frightens" them.

The Soviet Union -- which, after all, is only a stone's throw, so to speak, from the Near and Middle East -- could be shown something even if it is only the persisting desire of the present U.S. Administration to resolve political problems by means of the same old military force. Or, if that is how it turns out, with a show of that force...

KORNILOV ASSESSES U.S. FOREIGN POLICIES

Sees DRA Policy Hypocritical

LD101830 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 10 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Another dark page has been entered in the criminal chronicles of terrorism: a transport plane with passengers, taking off the airfield of Khowst in Afghanistan, was shot down by a surface-to-air missile. As many as 30 people, including women and children, died.

It was just one of the several acts of terror perpetrated in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the recent period.

While the Afghan authorities, relying on the vigorous and ever growing support of the people, have assumed a course of national reconciliation and truce, certain forces of the U.S., which have no interest in the suppression of the dangerous seat of tension in Asia, continue an undeclared war against Afghanistan.

Washington is banking on force and state terrorism in its policy towards Afghanistan. It takes a similar approach to those countries the peoples of which want to be the masters of their destinies.

It appears that the President signs with one hand public statements urging "a war on international terrorism" while authorizing with the other supplies of surface-to-air missiles to terrorists to enable them to shoot down civilian planes. Washington condemns the extremists who have taken Americans hostage -- and perpetrates even worse crimes by institutionalizing terrorism as official policy. It calls for the convocation in Rome of an international forum on fighting terrorism -- and is brandishing arms at strange shores, threatening to make whole states and peoples hostage to its aggressive and predatory course.

Answering the other day a question from the West German newspaper WELT AM SONTAG on how to reconcile the fact that Washington, branding Iran as "a backer of terrorism," at the same time secretly supplied arms to that country in violation of American laws and in secrecy from Congress, Henry Kissinger, a former U.S. Secretary of state, said that a policy of saying one thing and doing secretly something different, directly opposite, was unjustifiable. I could not agree more.

'Irangate', Militarist 'Hysteria'

LD111342 Moscow TASS in English 1317 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov:

It has become a rule with certain quarters in Washington that the worse things get at home, the more eager they become to distract public attention and score P.R. points by heightening tension and attempting aggressive adventures in foreign policy.

Now that the turbid waves of Irangate batter the American state ship ever more strongly, swooping even over the navigator's premises and the captain's house, this is especially obvious.

One of the latest confirmations of the rule has been served by President Reagan's report "National Security Strategy of the United States" which reeks of militarism and enmity toward the USSR.

Since it has still not been possible to bring down the waves of the scandal, in the United States they are busy getting ready to whip up the militarist hysteria even further.

This is borne out graphically by a report just published in Washington by Heritage Foundation, the right-wingers' think-tank. What are the recommendations made to the White House this time by this outfit which has been one of the government's chief advisers also before?

The report is a plea for a still faster "Star Wars" effort, which would mean the arms race breaking into yet another sphere and getting even further out of hand.

The report also urges the White House immediately to sever relations with Afghanistan and Nicaragua and step up aid to counter-revolutionary forces in these countries as well as in Angola and Mozambique dramatically.

The rightists also think it vital to press the U.S. allies to support the American economic blockade of Cuba.

Besides, they call for scaling up the propaganda war against the USSR and other socialist countries.

The Heritage Foundation Hawks call for the President to leave meaningful conservative legacy in the field of national security and foreign policy.

But their recommendations effectively prod the White House into acting so that more trouble spots and Mont Blancs of arms towering on the very edge of the abyss of nuclear catastrophe may be only legacy that will be left by the present administration, that is, of course, if it manages to clamber out of the Irangate quagmire at all.

'REORGANIZATION' WORRIES U.S. 'ANTI-SOVIETEERS'

LD121839 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

The process of reorganization in the economy and social affairs in the Soviet Union and especially the broadening and acceleration of democratisation in Soviet society badly worry the American anti-Sovieteers. Now that these processes are going on, they are finding it more and more difficult to befuddle U.S. public opinion in an anti-Soviet spirit and to claim the superiority of capitalist society over socialism.

Democratisation and the measures taken by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet state to improve and streamline every area of life in the USSR, including the judiciary and legislation as a whole and the increased role of the Soviet media, which expose and sharply and constructively criticize deviations in social life without fear or favour, are making it more difficult for the anti-Sovieteers to use one of their chief "trump cards", allegations of "human rights violations" and "suppression of openness and public opinion" in the Soviet Union.

The awareness that the anti-Sovieteers are quickly losing their opportunities to slander and attack the USSR makes the U.S. ruling classes hastily concoct new arguments to dupe U.S. public opinion. One of the leading roles in this campaign is played by the notorious Heritage Foundation, a "public" organization funded by the military-industrial complex and the beer tycoon Joseph Coors. Between December and February alone the organization put out three "backgrounders" in which the administration and mass media were offered ideas on stepping up anti-Soviet propaganda. One of the papers recommended that a settlement of the situation related to Afghanistan should not be allowed by any means.

Another demands that the administration keep escalating the arms race to continue to try to talk to the Soviet Union from positions of strength. The third "backgrounder" was put out after the January 1987 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, which had taken major decisions to carry on the course defined by the 27th CPSU Congress, decisions that had evoked broad responses from the world press, including the American media. Ther Heritage Foundation demands in that latter paper the escalation of anti-Soviet propaganda to convince the public that the Soviet Union does not respect human rights. It slanders the broadening and advancing processes of the broadening and advancing processes of the democratisation of Soviet society as a mere propaganda campaign to dupe the Western public and capture banner headlines in the Western press.

The purpose of that "backgrounder" is the same as that of the earlier ones and is quite clear: To whip up anti-Soviet hysteria, in which the Heritage Foundation has always been in the lead, to block any move towards the normalisation of relations between the USSR and the USA in this way and, what is most important, to prevent even the slightest progress in the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons. The output of the Heritage Foundation is not widely known in the U.S. because as a rule it is not published in the press verbatim. This does not mean, however, that newspaper editors and commentators do not read them and draw "proper" conclusions. These papers and recommendations are examined especially closely by the higher echelons of the administration, including the White House.

U.S. JAPAN PLAN MORE 'PROVOCATIVE' MANEUVERS

LD042344 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Sergey Pravdin commentary]

[Text] Major U.S.-Japanese joint maneuvers are taking place on Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island. A spokesman for the Japanese Defense Department has stated that the main purpose of the maneuvers is to train troops to conduct combat operations in severe winter conditions. At the microphone is our commentator Sergey Pravdin:

Japanese land forces and U.S. Marines brought in from the Pentagon's military bases on the island of Okinawa are taking part in the current exercises on Hokkaido. According to Japanese press reports, in the course of the maneuvers forced marches in winter conditions are being held; operations to destroy landings by a national enemy are being practiced, and so on. SHAKAI SHIMPO points out that these exercises -- taking account of the fact that Hokkaido is only a few dozen miles from the Kurile Islands, which belong to the Soviet Union -- are of a patently provocative nature on Japan's part, vis-a-vis its northern neighbor.

In the next few days, more U.S.-Japanese maneuvers will commence, this time in northern regions of Honshu, Japan's biggest island. Again, according to Japanese press reports, operations to repulse an enemy attack will be practiced. As a Pentagon spokesman cynically stated, by this "enemy" is meant the sole power in the region capable of threatening the interests of the United States and Japan -- the Soviet Union.

The progressive Japanese press has appraised this statement as a blatant falsehood. AKAHATA says that it was none other than the Soviet Union which set forth the idea of establishing a universal system of international security, embracing Asia as well. The USSR favors making the Asian-Pacific region a zone of peace.

The United States, on the other hand, is continuing to increase its military presence in the region. It is transferring its latest weaponry and additional contingents of troops to its numerous bases there, including those in Japan. With the energetic backing of the Japanese conservative government, Washington is piecing together a new military bloc in the Far East, with Japan and the South Korean regime participating. These military preparations are a most crude violation of the Japanese postwar constitution and they are meeting with resolute resistance from the democratic public, both in Japan itself, and in other countries of Asia and the Pacific.

U.S. DEPLOYMENT OF F-16's AT MISAWA DECRIED

OW110530 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Kalinin commentary]

[Text] According to a KYODO report, the United States is planning to deploy another squadron of F-16 fighter-bombers at its Misawa base. Commentator Kalinin comments:

The first squadron of 27 F-16's was deployed in Misawa in 1985. The deployment of another squadron will begin in April this year and will be completed in about 3 months. Misawa thus will have two squadrons, totalling 54 planes, as Washington originally planned.

It was not without reason that the Pentagon selected Misawa for the deployment of F-16's. The Pentagon has never hidden the fact that the F-16's are for offensive operations against the USSR's Maritime Kray, Sakhalin, and the Kurile Islands. It is fully aware of the fact that Vladivostok is only 800 kilometers away from Misawa and within the F-16's range of 1,000 kilometers. If the F-16's are equipped with cruise missiles, the in range increases to 2,500 kilometers.

One should recall that F-16's from South Korea took part in a Japan-U.S. joint military exercise for the first time in October of last year. The exercise was held in northern Japan. According to Japanese newspaper reports, the exercise scenario included an attack against bases in the Soviet Maritime Kray. Judging from these facts, one can easily imagine that training for attacks on Soviet targets was the top-priority mission imposed on those F-16's in the exercise.

Another point that should be noted is that U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger admitted some time ago in an interview with the KYODO press agency that the deployment of F-16's in Misawa is aimed at beefing up the U.S. war potential through forward deployment [zensen haibi shudan] in the Far East. By using the term: forward deployment, the Pentagon is referring, first of all, to means of nuclear attack. The F-16 is, needless to say, included among such means. A single F-16 is capable of carrying nuclear warheads with destructive power several times that of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The headquarters of the U.S. 5th Air Force in Japan admits that F-16 pilots constantly are training for simulated nuclear warfare. It is said that they are flying approximately 30 sorties daily for such training.

Deployment of the F-16's at Misawa is part of the U.S. nuclear strategy. This is proven by the fact that an underground command post has been built at the base to command operations if mass lethal weapons are used. It is the Pentagon's plan to move the U.S. Air Force's regional command headquarters to Misawa in case a nuclear war breaks out. This regional headquarters will command operations of F-16's against Soviet targets in the Far East.

The headquarters of the U.S. Forces in Japan once stated that those under the U.S. nuclear umbrella should tolerate the U.S. Forces' possession of nuclear weapons. Some officials of the Japanese Government seem to support that statement. Japan has virtually abandoned its three nonnuclear principles -- principles which served for a long time as a form of political self-restraint on nuclear arms -- by allowing the United States to deploy nuclear weapon delivery vehicles on its soil.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA DISCUSSES JAPANESE DEFENSE BUDGET

PM041407 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Lieutenant Colonel V. Solovyev "International Notes": "Dangerous Step"]

[Excerpts] On the eve of 1987 the Japanese cabinet of ministers adopted a decision that undoubtedly will have far-reaching consequences. [paragraph continues]

The draft state budget that has been approved for the next fiscal year, starting 1 April, sets the country's military spending at Y3,518 billion -- 5.2 percent more than the corresponding appropriations for 1986. An increase, you might think, and not such a great one. But the whole point is that with the allocation of this sum the "ceiling" on Japanese military spending, which is equal to 1 percent of the gross national product, will be exceeded.

Washington has evaluated highly the Japanese Government's decision. [passage omitted]

But is a desire to please the senior strategic partner all that is apparent in Tokyo's latest step? I do not think so. The desire of certain circles in Tokyo to enhance Japan's military prestige together with its economic and political role can be seen increasingly clearly. Thus, recently addressing a regular session of the country's parliament, which has resumed its work in Tokyo, Prime Minister Nakasone once again voiced the Japanese Government's determination to increase efforts in the military sphere, and above all, to abandon the "1-percent ceiling" on military appropriations. It is significant that in the same speech the head of he cabinet of ministers made it clear that Japan's ruling circles will continue to strive for the satisfaction of illegal territorial claims on the USSR.

In the light of such statements, hardly anyone will be misled by claims by the country's officials that "breaking through the military ceiling" will not result in the aggressive policy that Japanese militarism pursued in the war years. No, the bloody crimes committed by the Japanese military in the World War II years have not been erased from the peoples' memory. The democratic press of the Asian countries reminds us of this with particular alarm nowadays.

IZVESTIYA Article

PM031039 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA correspondent S. Agafonov dispatch under the rubric "Pertinent Remarks": "The Sky Is the Limit"]

[Text] Tokyo -- Just before the New Year the Japanese cabinet headed by Prime Minister Y. Nakasone made the decision to do away with the ceiling on military expenditure, which had existed in the country for 10 years and was set at 1 percent of gross national product. This step by the conservative government generated a storm of indignation in Japan. As if to somehow quell the wave of protests, official Tokyo promised to set new limits on the growth of military appropriations. An emergency cabinet session was held last weekend to discuss this problem.

So, what did the government propose instead of 1 percent? "The sky is the limit" -- that was the figurative comment on the emergency session's results by one of the local newspapers. According to the decision that was made, the new limit on military budgets was set at the sum requested by the National Defense Agency [NDA] to complete the latest 5-year arms buildup plan. The NDA 5-year plan, which began last year, will cost 18.4 trillion yen. This astronomical amount is the limit promised to the country by the Nakasone cabinet.

At first glance the specific amount, which according to commentators will not be reviewed during the 5 years, indeed represents -- if one could use the expression -- a limit on estimates. [paragraph continues]

However, matters have been arranged so that expenditure on the next NDA 5-year plan will not be limited by anything except the military department's appetite. Under these circumstances, it really does appear that the sky is the limit.

A declaration especially adopted by the government notes that, while rejecting the 1-percent practice, the Liberal Democratic Party cabinet will not allow Japan to become a major military power, will preserve the "defensive" orientation of the arms buildup, and will not abandon the three nonnuclear principles. Delivering this statement, M. Gotoda, chief of the Prime Minister's Secretariat, emphasized that although the 1-percent barrier has been demolished, military appropriations in the next 5 years will, in fact, remain at "the 1 percent level."

But all these reservations failed to impress the Japanese. The Nakasone government's decision on the new limits was condemned not only by the major opposition parties but even by the "old guard" of the Liberal Democratic Party itself -- former Prime Ministers T. Fukuda and D. Suzuki and former Deputy Chairman of the party S. Nikaido.

NDA chief Y. Kurihara and... the Pentagon were the most active advocates of the final rejections of the 1 percent. People here recall the recent Japanese-U.S. consultations on security questions in Hawaii, where the U.S. side made it unambiguously clear that "defense expenditure must not be determined according to some artificial rules." It appears that the Pentagon's prescription underlies the defense limits announced by official Tokyo last weekend.

Japanese mass news media are convinced that the elimination of effective restrictions on the military budget's growth is only a first step, a prelude to a free-for-all in an accelerated arms race. The next stage, according to TOKYO SHIMBUN, will be to review the "Basic Guidelines for Defense Plans" adopted in 1976.

According to the Japanese Government's statement, it made its decision with due consideration for the Japanese people's security and prosperity. "Did the Japanese really ask for this?" -- that was the question asked by the newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN, and it went on to answer it itself, citing opinion poll data: The overwhelming majority of Japanese are in favor of preserving the ceiling on military expenditure that has existed for 10 years.

The Japanese Parliament's session resumed its work on the Monday following the New Year. It is generally believed, the KYODO news agency noted, that the problem of military appropriations will be one of the key issues in the forthcoming parliamentary debates.

JAPANESE PUBLIC PROTESTS 'CHAUVINIST' HOLIDAY

LD111244 Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo February 11 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vasiliy Golovnin reports:

Despite wide public protests, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and members of his cabinet took part in a "nation-wide" ceremony in Tokyo today on the occasion of the so-called "National Foundation Day."

Until World War Two, it had served as an instrument of the chauvinist brainwashing of the population, since, according to a myth spread by authorities, it was on February 11 centuries ago that the "great Japanese empire" had been founded and its subjects were considered to be direct descendants of gods.

To the roar of militarist marches issuing from powerful loudspeakers militants from 580 neofascist organisations, which demand the elimination of left-wing organisations and the renunciation of peace provisions of the Constitution, staged a "show of strength" in the streets of Japanese cities. Using heavy-duty lorries, they tried to block the headquarters of the socialist and communist parties as well as many trade unions.

Giving rebuff to the sorties of right-wing forces, mass democratic organisations today held rallies in all major cities protesting against the "National Foundation Day." The participants in a rally held in Tokyo by the socialist party and trade unions emphasized that the chauvinist campaign was stepped up in support of the authorities' course on building up armed forces and restoring order which existed in the years of militarist dictatorship.

Speakers at the meeting denounced the so-called "defensive secrets" bill which the conservatives plan to invoke against the participants in the movement for peace, against military alliance with the U.S.

A major demonstration was held in the city of Fukagawa, Hokkaido, in protest against the "National Foundation Day" by the representatives of ethnic minority, Ainu, subjected to systematic discrimination. In their appeal they emphasized that chauvinist claims of "exclusiveness" of the Japanese were called upon to perpetuate the existing system under which the rights of national minorities were violated in the country.

VLADIMIROV OUTLINES USSR-JAPAN FISHERY TALKS

LD121942 Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 12 TASS -- TASS commentator Mikhail Vladimirov writes:

Many items on the agenda have already been decided upon here at the current third session of the Soviet-Japanese Commission for Cooperation in Fisheries.

The commission has agreed upon a plan for scientific research in the north western Pacific and discussed new fields of cooperation.

In particular, the Soviet side suggested establishing joint experimental scientific and production centres on the far eastern coast of the USSR for the propagation and rational utilization of anadromous fishes.

At the same time some questions concerning the protection of salmon that propagate in the rivers of the USSR have not been settled so far.

It was pointed out at the opening of the session that the stocks of some of the fishes arouse concern. The main cause of that is the ongoing fishery of salmons in the open sea by Japanese fishing boats, which hinders the migration of the fishes to the spawning grounds.

The state of affairs is also aggravated by the fact that Japanese fishermen make numerous breaches of the fishery rules fixed by the commission, and the Japanese side does not take effective measures to ensure the observance of the rules.

Soviet organisations would fine their fishermen for similar breaches of the rules to a sum of more than 15 million roubles (approximately 20 million dollars).

The Soviet side is for complete termination of the sea fisheries of salmon. At the same time it appreciates the interests of the Japanese fishermen.

At these talks the Soviet side expresses readiness to fix a 1987 quota for the catch of salmon that propagate in the rivers of the USSR for the Japanese side at last year's amount (24,500 tons), provided the Japanese side pays compensation for the purpose of replenishment of the stocks of the fishes.

However, the Japanese delegation insists on an increase in quota, which runs counter to scientists' recommendations.

It should be pointed out that the Soviet side, meeting the Japanese fishermen half-way, limits its own salmon fishery. This year Soviet fishery organisations are not allowed to increase their salmon catch quota.

On the whole, the volume of Japanese salmon fishery is 50 per cent larger than that of the Soviet one.

In these conditions Soviet fishery organisations hope for a constructive approach by the Japanese side to a settlement of the differences.

KAMENTSEV TALKS WITH DPRK ECONOMIC DELEGATION

SK070512 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] The DPRK Government economic delegation led by Comrade Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice premier and chairman of the Committee of External Economic Affairs of the DPRK State Administration Council, visited Moscow from 28 January to 5 February.

In the talks between the delegation and Comrade Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the Presidium and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the USSR Council of Ministers, matters concerning economic cooperative were discussed.

The participants in the talks stressed the need to further develop the economic relations between the two countries based on the spirit of the agreement made in the summit meeting in Moscow between Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president.

Discussions were held concerning the possibility of actively utilizing new forms of cooperation, such as expanding the process of direct cooperation in production in [words indistinct], light industry, and other fields of the people's economy, founding joint venture enterprises, and developing border trade on the basis of mutual advantage and progress.

The talks proceeded in a friendly, businesslike atmosphere.

DPRK'S KIM IL-SONG SENDS MESSAGE TO GROMYKO

PM091130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[Message from DPRK President Kim Il-song to A.A. Gromyko]

[Text] To Comrade A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

I express profound gratitude for the cordial congratulations and wishes sent by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on my reelection as president of the DPRK. I also will take this opportunity to express confidence that the traditional relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation between our two countries' parties, governments, and peoples will steadily expand and develop in the spirit of the accords reached at the Korean-Soviet summit meeting held last October in Moscow, and I wish the party, government, and people of the USSR even greater successes in the struggle to implement the 27th CPSU Congress decisions this year -- the year of the 70th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution.

President of the DPRK

Kim Il-song

Yi Kun-mo Message to Ryzhkov

PM091132 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[Message from Yi Kun-mo, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, to N.I. Ryzhkov]

[Text] To Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

I express profound gratitude to you, and through you, to the USSR Council of Ministers for the cordial congratulations on my election as premier of the DPRK Administration Council at the first session of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, Eighth Convocation.

I am confident that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK will continue to further deepen and develop in the spirit of the accords reached at the meeting between our countries' leaders last October.

I wish you new successes in your responsible work for the sake of Soviet society's prosperity and development.

Yi Kun-mo,

Premier of the DPRK Administration Council

SOVIET-PAKISTANI TALKS OPEN IN MOSCOW 6 FEB

PM091009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Soviet-Pakistani Talks"]

[Text] On 6 February E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, began talks with Pakistani Foreign Minister S. Yaqub Khan, who has come to Moscow on a visit.

Present at the talks were Yu. M. Vorontsov and A.G. Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign ministers, and A.-R. Kh. Vezirov, USSR ambassador to Pakistan; on the Soviet side and N. Shaikh, Pakistani deputy foreign minister; S.M. Amin, Pakistani ambassador to the USSR; and R. Mohammad Khan, general director of the Pakistani Foreign Ministry; on the Pakistani side.

On the same day E.A. Shevardnadze gave a luncheon in S. Yaqub Khan's honor, during which there was an exchange of speeches.

Conclusion of Talks

LD071746 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In a Businesslike Atmosphere]

[Text] Talks between Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Pakistani Foreign Minister Yukub Khan ended in Moscow today.

In the course of the talks the sides discussed Soviet-Pakistani relations and international affairs, especially the situation around Afghanistan.

The sides expressed interest in the development of bilateral relations in the political, trade and economic fields and noted that there were opportunities for joint efforts in that area and for the strengthening of good-neighbourliness and mutually beneficial cooperation with due respect for the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Pakistan.

Exchanging views on international issues, the Soviet foreign minister stressed the importance of the Soviet foreign policy initiatives for the prevention of nuclear war and the limination of the arms race, and also on the development of an all-embracing system of international peace and security.

He noted specifically the importance of the proposals made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech in Vladivostok in July 1986 to the solution of the problems of the Asia-Pacific region.

Yakub Khan stated the closeness and identity of the positions of Pakistan and the USSR on many international problems under discussion.

As regards the situation related to Afghanistan, the Soviet side stressed that the Soviet Union was consistently advocating its political settlement. [paragraph continues]

The stand of the Soviet Union was clearly formulated at the 27th CPSU Congress and in the statements and speeches of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The Soviet Union has no intention of keeping its troop contingent in Afghanistan and is prepared to expedite its return home as soon as settlement is agreed upon.

The attention of the Pakistani side was attracted to the importance of the programme of national reconciliation put forward by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the appeal of the Revolutionary Council for a truce. It was noted that these steps offered a realistic way to the establishment of peace and tranquility in Afghanistan and contributed to the political settlement of the situation related to it.

The sides voiced support for the efforts of the personal representative of the United Nations secretary general, Diego Cordovez, who mediates in the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva, and noted the importance of the third stage of the seventh round of these talks due to take place in late February.

Eduard Shevardnadze and Yaqub Khan called for continued Soviet-Pakistani dialogue and constructive exchanges of opinion on matters of bilateral relations and the situation in the world and in the region.

Present at the talks were Yu. M. Vorontsov and A.G. Kovalev, first deputy foreign ministers, and A.Kh. Vezirov, USSR ambassador to Pakistan, on the Soviet side and N. Shaikh, Pakistani deputy foreign minister; S.M. Amin, Pakistani ambassador to the USSR; and R. Mohammad Khan, general director of the Pakistani Foreign Ministry; on the Pakistani side.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON DRA RECONCILIATION PROCESS

PM121507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report under the general heading "International Information": "Afghanistan -- On the Road to Reconciliation"]

[Text] Kabul, 10 February -- Actively assisting the people's efforts for national reconciliation, seeking ways to settle contradictions and eliminate hostility between opposing forces inside and outside the country, establishing links with the leaders of armed groups and the leaders of opposition forces, and working for the return to the country of Afghans who have left and giving them help: This is how the tasks of the commissions on national reconciliation are formulated in the regulations approved by the Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation in Afghanistan.

The clauses of the regulations concerning the rights of local commissions for national reconciliation note in particular that they can put forward proposals on amnesty for some categories of prisoners, on the appointment of judges and members of the courts, and on the remission of payment of certain taxes for peasants and can distribute help with essential goods among the population.

The participants in a meeting of the leadership of the Central Council of the Working Hazara People held yesterday in Kabul focused attention on questions of realizing reconciliation in regions populated by the Hazara. In order to accelerate the process of national reconciliation a decision was taken to create action groups within the council's framework whose task is to establish contact with refugees and members of armed antigovernment formations.

A meeting of authoritative representatives of the population took place in Herat. Leaders and tribal elders, religious and public figures, and workers and peasants took part in it. They unanimously approved the policy of the PDPA and the DRA Government aimed at achieving national accord and stopping bloodshed, and announced their readiness to do their utmost to realize this humane program.

In accordance with the amnesty decree dozens of people convicted in the past for antistate activity have come out of prison in Faryab and Samangan Provinces.

The Society of Mohmand Ulemas -- an authoritative religious organization of this border region of Pakistan -- has made an appeal to Afghan refugees. All Afghans who love their country must return home, forgetting past enmity, and support the Afghan leadership's policy, the appeal stressed.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR SPEAKS ON REVOLUTION DAY

LD112116 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 11 Feb 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast: video speech on the occasion of Iran's Revolution day by Maser Hayani-Nobari, Iranian ambassador to the USSR; in vernacular, fading into Russian]

[Text] Eight years ago, thanks to the religious faith of the people in the unity and within the uncompromising leadership of Imam Khomeyni, the Islamic revolution in Iran gained victory over the Shah's regime and thereby struck a blow at the positions of U.S. imperialism. The glorious history of the development of the Islamic revolution is a bright testimony to the just aspirations of our people and their firmness in the face of aggressive actions by the forces of oppression. During this crucial period our people, weapons in hand, are defending the lofty ideals of the homeland. We support the just struggle of the world's oppressed peoples against colonial and imperialist rule and against the exploitation of man. The Islamic Republic of Iran actively supports the struggle of the Palestinian people for self-determination, for the formation of an independent Palestinian state, and the struggle of the peoples of Africa and the frontline states against apartheid. Our country gives all-round support to the struggle of the revolutionary forces of Nicaragua, El Salvador, and other countries of that region, which are directed against the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism.

Iran is conducting an active struggle against the influence of U.S. imperialism in the Near and Middle East and for the liquidation of the Zionist regime. We are in favor of an independent, people's nonaligned Afghanistan, which would maintain good and friendly relations with its neighbors.

Last year the Islamic Republic of Iran succeeded in inflicting a very crushing blow at imperialism and in exposing the hypocrisy and insidiousness of the U.S. authorities. The United States tried to use the smallest of opportunities to penetrate revolutionary Iran. With that aim, it bagan to conduct a new and even more insidious policy, exerting pressure on a number of countries, including its own allies. The United States boycotted arms sales to Iran, which was in a state of war, and then secretly and unlawfully sent its agents to Iran with a batch of weapons. The United States was bearing in mind the special situation in the region and was hoping that Iran would accept this proposal; in this way the difficulties that arose for the United States in the Near and Middle East would be resolved.

Naturally, Iran answered with a refusal. The echoes of this scandal have not subsided to this day, causing more and more dissatisfaction both inside the United States itself and beyond the confines of the country.

Today the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran are proudly marking the eighth anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution. In a short time the Iranian people have accumulated great historic experience and are now successfully building their future and the future of the Islamic world. The Islamic Republic of Iran favors the development and deepening of friendly and goodneighborly relations with the Soviet Union. We hope that the present process in the development of relations will develop intensively.

Thank you. [preceding words in Russian]

Reception Held

LD112227 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 11 TASS -- Iran's ambassador to the USSR M. Hayrani-Nobari held today a reception on the occasion of the national day, Revolution Day. Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Tengiz Menteshashvili, other officials were present at the reception.

USSR-INDIA AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION PLAN

LD122300 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1363 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Report by TASS correspondent Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] Delhi, 12 Feb (TASS) -- A positive outlook on the future is a characteristic feature of many-sided friendly links between the USSR and India. The long-term program for cooperation in the agro-industrial complex field for a period up to the year 2000 signed here today became a new confirmation of this.

On the basis of the results of the 10th session of the intergovernmental Soviet-Indian Commission on Economic and Scientific-Tecnical Cooperation, and of the talks in Delhi between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the sides expressed a mutual desire to join efforts in solving topical problems concerning the development of the production and processing of agricultural produce in the interests of the growth of the well-being of the peoples of the two countries. The program points out that the most favorable prospects for cooperation are present in the area of selection, seed-growing and the technology of crop cultivation, including the use of the latest biotechnical methods; dry-land and irrigated farming processes; cultivation of salinated soils; cultivation of essential oil-bearing crops; tea production; the processing, development, and improvement of methods for nitrogen fixation through micro-organisms; veterinary and sanitary monitoring; intensification of silkworm breeding; the production of meat, dairy, and food produce, and in other areas. Scientific-technical cooperation will be implemented in accordance with a long-term plan.

It is hoped to develop and intensify the exchange of progressive technologies and achievements of science and technology; to cooperate in setting up joint export-oriented enterprises; and to render assistance on a mutual basis in the output and processing of agricultural production, in the improvement of agrochemical services, in setting up modern farms for breeding small-sized horned cattle, and in a number of other fields.

The program was signed by Y.N. Balandin, deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, and by Shrinivas Shashtri, secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

A meeting was held the same day between the Soviet delegation and G.S. Dhillon, minister of agriculture and rural development. The minister gave a high appraisal to the experience of mutually-advantageous cooperation between the USSR and India in this important sphere of the economy. The long-range program fully corresponds to the traditions of friendship and fruitful cooperation between our countries, the minister emphasized.

OVCHINNIKOV EXAMINES NEW PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION

PM091234 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Commentator's Column": "From February to February"]

[Text] Exactly a year ago, on 7 February, presidential elections were held in the Philippines. The results were falsified, which unleashed a chain of tumultuous events culminating in the overthrow of Marcos. A year later, the Philippines are summing up the results of a plebiscite on the new Constitution. Both champions of renewal and advocates of stability voted for it, and thus in support of C. Aquino's administration. This paradox reflects the multifaceted nature of events in the Philippines.

Under the new Constitution, C. Aquino will retain her powers as head of state until 1992. The plebiscite's successful results for her are gratifying to the true friends of the Philippine people. Congratulations have been sent to Manila from Washington too. And that provides grounds to say that the picture of Philippine reality has a second, deeper side too. Let us recall that the fall of the dictatorial regimes in the Philippines and Haiti are depicted by American politicians as a success for their global "crusade for democracy." When the country proved to be on the brink of a civil war with unpredictable consequences, Washington preferred to sacrifice Marcos in order to preserve the U.S. strategic and economic positions. The fact that the military unexpectedly went over to C. Aquino's side not only abruptly changed the correlation of forces, but tied the hands of the new administration to a great extent.

The whole of the past year has been tinged with acute confrontation. The growth of the masses' political activeness created favorable conditions for the changes which had been promised to the people. But Washington sought directly and indirectly to channel Manila's policy in a direction which suits Washington. As soon as certain members of the Constitutional Commission raised the question of eliminating foreign military bases, the U.S. Senate blocked additional aid to the Philippines. After a second vote the aid was granted, but the signal was unequivocal. The numerous rebellions as a result of which the armed forces are constantly having to get the president out of trouble, increasing the generals' political influence every time, can also be regarded as a covert form of pressure.

But it would not be appropriate for the neoglobalists to establish a military dictatorship in the Philippines. On the eve of talks on the future of the American military bases, they have an interest in a government enjoying popularity among the people but which would not encroach on the U.S. military presence or on the dominance of American monopolies. So the confrontation between imperialist interests and the demands of the Philippine working people will continue. And the fact that approximately one-half of the armed forces personnel voted against the new Constitution only heralds an exacerbation of this process.

SRV'S TRUONG CHINH GIVEN OCTOBER REVOLUTION ORDER

PM111559 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

["USSR Supreme Soviet Decree Awarding the Order of the October Revolution to Comrade Truong Chinh, Chairman of the SRV State Council"]

[Text] Comrade Truong Chinh, chairman of the SRV State Council, is awarded the Order of the October Revolution for his outstanding contribution to the revolutionary movement and great services to the development of fraternal friendship and multifaceted cooperation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the SRV and on his 80th birthday.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Kremlin, Moscow, 6 February 1987.

GRAMMATCHIKOV MARKS CPV FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

OW051305 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Grammatchikov commentary]

[Text] All communists and people of the Soviet Union entertain fraternal friendship with and profound respect for the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], a revolutionary party of patriots and international combatants. The Soviet people realize that the CPV has implemented the testament of President Ho Chi Minh, an outstanding Marxist-Leninist fighter who achieved many accomplishments during a brief historical period of time and under unimaginably difficult conditions. The party has led the Vietnamese people to glorious victory in the struggle against oppression and foreign invasion, for freedom and independence. This victory has won worldwide admiration and encouraged millions of people in many countries to fight for freedom.

Today the CPV remains an experienced vanguard corps of the Vietnamese people in the construction of a new society. It plays the role of a leader and organizer in every social domain -- in building the foundation of modern industry, boosting agriculture, consolidating the national defense potential, and developing science and culture in Vietnam. The Soviet people are faithfully watching their Vietnamese friends implement the realistic and creative resolutions of the Sixth CPV Congress, which critically appraised the past achievements and kindled a new spirit in implementing the work of advancing the SRV.

The Soviet Union fully endorses the Vietnamese comrades' viewpoint and considers the Sixth CPV Congress a congress for reform and renovation. The CPV has operated in the spirit of looking straight at facts. This is in the very nature of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party because, as Lenin said, the party of the revolutionary proletariat is powerful only if it publicly criticizes itself and admits its shortcomings and weaknesses.

As we know, at its birth, the CPV considered itself a militant corps of the international revolutionary movement. We may recall that the Vietnamese communists' first political platform, written by Comrade Tran Phu in 1930, stressed that after the successful Russian October Revolution, Vietnam's revolution had become an integral part of the world proletarian revolution. The platform encouraged the Vietnamese popular masses to support the Soviet Union, which was being criticized by the imperialists at the time.

Relations between the Soviet and Vietnamese communists have been increasingly strengthened at each developmental stage of the liberation movement in Vietnam. Today, the fraternal alliance between the CPSU and the CPV constitutes the main force in consolidating Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation. It reflects the common objectives and tasks of our two parties and nations.

We are happy to be able to emphasize that the Vietnamese communists' renovation line conforms to the spirit of improvement mentioned in the resolution of the 27th CPSU Congress. The present era requires that we adopt a creative new way to settle complicated problems in order to further broaden the horizon for full development of the great creative potentials of socialist society.

Moreover, success can be achieved only when cooperation among socialist countries is developed and perfected. At this point, let me recall the working meeting of leaders of the fraternal parties of 10 socialist countries, including the SRV, at the end of last year. This meeting was regarded as a turning point in overall cooperation. Participants in the meeting declared their desire to consolidate their unity on the basis of developing the initiative and activity of each party and each country.

In coordination with the fraternal countries, the CPV has greatly contributed to the implementation of the guidelines for foreign policy. Broad world opinion supports the proposals of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia for turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, cooperation, and good neighborliness. These proposals also are consistent with the Soviet Union's program aimed at ensuring security in the Asia-Pacific region.

The CPV and the CPSU, as well as the Soviet Union and Vietnam, are united in the struggle for nuclear disarmament, against space militarization, and for elimination of the danger of nuclear war.

On the 57th founding anniversary of the CPV, the Soviet people convey their fraternal salutations to all Vietnamese communists and people and wish them new achievements in building a peaceful, independent, and prosperous Vietnam.

USSR-VIETNAM TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED IN HANOI

OW291305 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Talks between government trade delegations of the Soviet Union and the SRV ended in Hanoi with the signing of a protocol on goods exchange and payments for 1987 between the two countries. This document was drawn up on the basis of the basis of the agreement on goods exchange and payments between the Soviet Union and the SRV for the 1986-1990 period. It specifies continued development and expansion of effective trade relations between the two sides.

The Soviet Union will supply Vietnam with machinery, communications equipment, spare parts, petroleum products, ferrous metals, fertilizers, and consumer goods. The SRV will provide the Soviet Union with natural rubber, tea, coffee, peanut, soybean, black pepper, vegetables, fresh and processed fruits, and garments.

The protocol was signed by Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Kozhin and Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Trade Doan Duy Thanh.

OPENING OF PRK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION REPORTED

BK060442 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The PRK National Assembly opened its session in Phnom Penh on 4 February. During the session, the National Assembly members will sum up the outcome of work in the social, economic, and cultural fields in 1986, and approve plans and state budgets for 1987.

In his written opening speech, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party's Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly, stated: In 1986, Cambodia made great achievements in the economic and social fields. The Cambodian Armed Forces firmly defended the peaceful life of the Cambodian people. Despite unfavorable weather last year, the Cambodian people collected a better rice yield than in previous years. The industrial and handicraft workers also made satisfactory achievements. These achievements have created a good foundation for successful implementation of the 1987 plans and favorable conditions for further progress.

The National Assembly members also examined the outcome of the activities of the Council of State, ministries, and departments. Moreover, the participants examined a draft law on the creation of a new province -- Banteay Meanchey Province -- and a (?validity) examination commission.

PRK LEADERS SEND MESSAGE OF THANKS TO USSR

PM111532 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Profound Gratitude"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers have received a telegram from Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the PRK State Council; Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly; and Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers.

The telegram expresses profound gratitude on behalf of the KPRP Central Committee, the PRK State Council, National Assembly, and Council of Ministers, and all the Cambodian people to the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers for the warm congratulations on the 8th anniversary of the formation of the PRK.

Following the decisions of the Fifth KPRP Congress, the PRK, together with the SRV and Laos, supports the Soviet Union's peace-loving initiatives aimed at turning the Asian-Pacific region, and Southeast Asia in particular, into a region free from nuclear weapons, the telegram says. We are fully determined to continue to make efforts to achieve a political solution to the problem of ensuring independence, peace, freedom, good-neighborliness, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

We value highly the Soviet Union's support for the Cambodian revolution, as well as its determination to strengthen Soviet-Cambodian relations on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. This is a factor of tremendous inspiration for the PRK, which is at the stage of gradual progress toward socialism.

The telegram contains wishes for new successes in fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

CPSU HIGHER EDUCATION DELEGATION VISITS LAOS

PM031403 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by B.N. Bessonov, leader of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Establishments Section Consultative Group, was in Laos 20-28 January to exchange experience in the party leadership of the training of specialists with higher and secondary specialized education and of political education work among students.

The delegation was received by Saman Vi-gnaket, member of the LPRP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the LPRP Central Committee.

CADRE DESCRIBES USSR-LPDR ECONOMIC COOPERATION

BK091509 Moscow in Lao in Laos 1030 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Views of (Viktor Kusev), cadre attached to the USSR State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries]

[Text] The Soviet Union began giving tremendous economic assistance to the LPDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] from the day it was established. This assistance has helped the LPDR heal the wounds of war, solve the problem of food shortages, and escape the economic encirclement of the enemies who hoped to destroy the young republic. The LPDR Government has used the Soviet cooperation to rehabilitate the shattered economy, consolidate various state economic sectors, and build establishments that are vital to the national economy. You, Lao comrades, must be fully aware of these various enterprises; many Lao leaders have pointed this out frequently. Here, I would like to remind you of certain projects, such as the 150-kilowatt radio transmitter; the (?Lotus) satellite station; the oil depot in Vientiane, built with the construction design and assistance of Soviet experts; the auto repair workshop at Dongchong, which was established with Soviet assistance and the cadres and workers of which have been trained by Soviet experts; and the machine repair shop at Tha Ngon, which is a large repair establishment serving agricultural cooperatives and settlements in their harvest. The Soviet Union also rendered assistance to the LPDR in building the Nam Ngum and Nam Kading Bridges, and at present, the Se Bang Hiang Bridge.

Comrades, I would like to add here that Soviet assistance to the LPDR is primarily aimed a solving various key problems in the national economy of that country. The LPDR and the USSR have developed coordination in their state plans aimed at improving the efficiency of our cooperation. This development has created favorable conditions for the USSR to render constructive assistance to the LPDR in resolving certain problems within a certain period of time. As a result, (?the LPDR's state planning) is always included in the Soviet state planning. As you probably know, Laos at present is concentrating efforts on building roads so as to link the communications network of all provinces in the country. The LPDR is currently building a strategic highway to a Vietnamese coastal port. Through this seaport, Laos will be able to receive better assistance from the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries. This highway must be used all year round. Therefore, several bridges have been built on this highway. But it is not easy at all, owing to numerous difficult conditions, such as deep jungles, high mountains, torrential rivers, warm climate, and other natural obstacles.

Soviet experts have helped Lao comrades build these bridges by actually conducting surveys, designing, and carrying out construction work. The Soviet Union plans to send more equipment for the construction of bridges in Laos. In the current 5-year plan, from 1986 to 1990, many Soviet organizations plan to cooperate with and help Laos build three more bridges -- on Routes 13, 8, and 9. The USSR will continue assisting Laos, state communications organizations, which are responsible for transporting goods from abroad. The USSR will provide equipment, transport vehicles, and technology to these organizations. In the near future, the USSR will help Laos set up five highway construction units and one bridge construction unit. For those Lao comrades who are not yet informed, I would like to tell you that the USSR has helped Laos set up a transport organization in Savannakhet, which includes a transport section, an auto repair workshop, and a supply warehouse. At the same time, it has also helped Laos set up a transport technical service center.

The USSR and the LPDR have outlined a comprehensive cooperation plan by coordinating their state plans with each other. In its current state plan, at the Lao side's request, the USSR will concentrate its assistance to Laos on developing communications and transport networks, improving agriculture and forestry work, and training cadres. The USSR will continue providing Laos with essential materials, such as oil, road and bridge construction techniques, and machines. The USSR will help Laos in establishing state organizations to carrying out mining. The scope of our technical and economic cooperation in the current 5-year plan is extremely broad. It is important to note that Geydar Aliyev, head of the CPSU delegation and member of the Central Committee Politburo, pointed out at the Fourth LPRP Congress that our cooperation is aimed at assisting Laos at the highest level in solving its socioeconomic problems, thus helping the LPDR to become stronger with every passing day.

BRIEFS

BROADCASTING AGREEMENT WITH PRK -- Phnom Penh, 31 Jan 87 (TASS) -- A working protocol has been signed on cooperation and exchanges in the sphere of television and radio for 1987-89 between Cambodian television and the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting. The document envisages the exchange of artistic, documentary, popular science, music, and sports material, as well as radio broadcasts about important events in the life of the peoples of the two countries. Particular attention is being paid to the preparation of programs devoted to the 70th anniverary of Great October and the 10th anniversary of the formation of the PRK. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1000 GMT 31 Jan 87 LD]

BBC BROADCASTS, 'SUSPICIONS' COULD HURT RELATIONS

PH121615 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 5 Feb 87 p 7

[B. Belitskiy article: "The Two Faces of 'Auntie,' or How the BBC Tries To Make Us Feel Hostile Toward Our Own"]

[Text] "Search at anything -- any anti-Soviet literature or newspapers! Search at anything!" [deliberate mistranslation to reflect misuse of Russian -- see graf three] Do you understand the meaning of these phrases? We do not. Although... with a great deal of effort one could obviously guess....

Well, let us have another try at grasping the meaning of these lines: "Search at anything -- any anti-Soviet literature or newspapers! Search at anything!" This little collection of words was spoken "in Russian" on television screens throughout Britain during the showing of another anti-Soviet "hit" entitled "Foreign Affairs." The author of the play, one John Shaw, had clearly set himself the task of thoroughly frightening the increasing number of British people planning tourist trips to the USSR. In the course of the play, "Soviet secret police" agents burst into the room of a Moscow hotel where a pretty English tourist called Susan is staying and carry out a search. Evidently relying on the knowledge of Russian he acquired while training at Sandhurst Military College, the author -- with the directness of a true martinet -- has one of the "agents" utter the words quoted above -- in Russian, for greater "authenticity."

However, the liberties taken with Russian grammar by the BBC in this production pale in comparison to the liberties taken by the BBC, and its Russian Service in particular, with the facts of Soviet reality. The impression is even created at times that the only things in our lives of interest to this service are those which can somehow be exaggerated or even simply distorted for the purpose of serving the hidden aim of trying to teach us not to love our country, to put it midly.

These kinds of sucpcions, incidentally, sometimes not only creep into the heads of those for whom these broadcasts are intended. Recently, in January, the BBC Russian Service broadcast an interview with its "boss" -- John Tusa, head of the corporation's External Services. During the interview he was asked how closely he follows the Russian Service broadcasts and whether he is confident that any "dissident" who is a firmly established member of the staff will not at times give vent to his hatred of everything Soviet and try, with his "contribution" to the broadcasts, to damage Anglo-Soviet relations? Mr Tusa assured his questioner that there are absolutely no grounds for these fears....

But how can this be? A somewhat different opinion is held, for example, by Aleksandr Liven, who was head of the Russian Service for a long time and was, of course, on more than nodding terms with its members. In a conversation broadcast by the BBC in English, he directly admitted that the recent "additions" to the Russian Service are predominantly people who have either been stripped of their Soviet citizenship for activity intended to damage the USSR or who left the country of their own accord because of their irreconcilable hatred for it. Moreover, according to him, there have even been cases of these people compiling broadcasts emanating such savage malice toward the USSR that the British Foreign Office has deemed it necessary to intervene and somehow restrain the ardor of the Russian Service for fear that this kind of broadcast could cause irreparable damage to Anglo-Soviet relations.

Here is a curious testimony from NEW SCIENTIST, the influential British science journal: "An unpleasant surprise awaits the unsuspecting Englishman who accidentally tunes into a BBC foreign broadcast in English. The cloyingly unctuous voices of the broadcasters and their manipulation of information which is totally obvious to any intelligent person are rather reminiscent of the chauvinistic fervor that once prevailed the British newsreels. The spirit of the 'cold war' is clearly still present in these broadcasts...."

THe BBC is very fond of vaunting its "independence" and "objectivity." Indeed, when the BBC was still in the process of being created just over 60 years ago, the leaders of British bourgeois parties showed a certain degree of "state wisdom."

Lloyd-George, Baldwin, and Macdonald were capable of foreseeing that if the BBC were to be created as the mouthpiece of only the party in power at any given moment, the corporation inevitably would be used as a football in the political struggle between parties. This certainly would reduce its effectiveness as a propaganda organ of the "establishment" as a whole, that is, the ruling class. Conversely, neutrality in the struggle between the bourgeois parties could give the BBC a general aura of neutrality and objectivity and thereby increase its effectiveness as a propaganda organ of the ruling class.

Hence the decision to make the corporation independent of the government to a certain extent, an organ which would remain neutral in the struggle between the bourgeois parties -- similar to the British monarchy and an equally faithful servant of the "establishment."

The reservation "to a certain extent" in the previous sentence is not accidental. The fact of the matter is that the Conservatives recently have begun to do their utmost to reduce even this measure of the BBC's imaginary "independence." Quite recently, at the end of January, news came that Alasdair Milne, the BBC director general, had resigned. Although official reports say Milne left "of his own accord," the British mass media immediately voiced the quite justified supposition that he had been forced to give up his position under pressure from the ruling Conservative Party leadership and, in particular, party chairman Norman Tebbit.

Milne had intended to leave back in 1985 when, under pressure from the Conservative government, the showing of a BBC documentary giving a fairly accurate picture of the situation in Northern Ireland was banned. On that occasion, he remained in his position, but, at the end of January this year he came under even greater pressure from the Conservative elite. Tebbit could not forgive the BBC for the fact that during the American air attacks on Libya from British airfields, the BBC news found it impossible to keep quiet about the wave of protests these aggressive actions caused throughout Britain. Moreover, the government succeeded in banning the television showing of a BBC documentary criticizing Britain's intention to launch a spy satellite to intercept radio broadcasts from a number of European and Middle Eastern countries.

Milne was also criticized in right-wing circles for the "Russian Season" held at the end of last year on BBC Radio 3, in the course of which British radio listeners were able to hear 120 very interesting programs of Russian classical music, works by Soviet composers, and Soviet plays.

Among the opponents of the "Russian Season" who have been made much of by the Russian Service is Professor Richard Freeborn, who is, alas, a lecturer in Russian literature at the very respectable University of London. "Propaganda" was his tendentious, unequivocal verdict on V. Vishnevskiy's ""Optimistic Tragedy," for example, which was included in the "Russian Season" program.

Those who failed to include works by Bulgakov, Shvarts, and Zoshchenko in the program were also hauled over the coals, as they say, in the same commentary. But who, if not the organizers of the "Russian Season," that is, fellow BBC colleagues, should have been criticized by the Russian Service? They were at liberty to freely choose works by any authors. If the aforementioned Soviet writers were not included in the "Russian Season" program -- writers who are highly popular, incidentally, not only in Britain but also in the Soviet Union, whose plays are performed in our country's theaters, and whose books are published by our publishing houses -- if they were not included in the program, which was generally compiled with great taste and a sense of sincere respect for the Russian and Soviet cultural legacy, then Radio 3 obviously had its reasons for this.

As a whole, the "Russian Season" broadcasts made an indelible impression on listeners, which was noted in the many observations by critics published in the London press and in the letters from ordinary English people sent to the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio broadcasting, in cooperation with which the program was stated.

Listener Michael Born from the city of Leeds wrote, for example:

"Having heard the concert of Soviet music recorded in Moscow and recently broadcast on Radio 3, I am eager to thank you for offering this marvelous opportunity to hear these new productions. We have already had a week of enjoyment of this real 'feast" of Russian music and we still have several more weeks to look forward to!"

Yes, "Auntie Beeb," as it is known by members of the corporation, sometimes produces useful programs. We will not deny this. And these programs meet with a warm response from Soviet people, who respect the great professionalism of the BBC, which has produced a great many excellent television films estimated at their true worth by our viewers.

But you inevitably ask yourself the question: Which is the true face of "Auntie Beeb" -- the one seen during the "Russian Season," which aroused such an ardent, grateful response from listeners, or the face of its Russian Service, which conceals its hatred for everything Soviet with difficulty?

One involuntarily recalls the profoundly symbolic tale by the English writer Robert Stevenson about the good Dr Jekyll, who brought joy to people but who occasionally turned into Mr Hyde, who exuded malice and hatred. Does not "Auntie Beeb" undergo the same transformation? In any case, Soviet people will always be happy to receive Dr Jekyll into their homes but they are unlikely to stand Mr Hyde for very long....

GREECE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN NATO MANEUVERS

LD121601 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Athens February 12 TASS -- Greece will not participate in NATO's spring-time military exercises "Dragon Hammer-87" and "Aurora Express-87."

This was announced by Ioannis Charalambopoulos, deputy prime minister of Greece, minister of national defence, when he was addressing military journalist on Wednesday.

He pointed out that the reasons for the refusal remain the same: the unresolved character of the problem of commanding and control over the air space of the Aegean Sea as well as the problem of Lemnos Island.

Political analysts point out that, apart from the said reservations, an important role in the Greek leadership's decision is being played by its desire for normalisation of the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean, the situation which is characterised by the growth of tension.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON PDRY DELEGATION'S VISIT

Gorbachev Dinner Speech

LD101516 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] A dinner in honor of a PDRY party-government delegation, led by Al-Bid, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, was given in the Great Kremlin Palace today on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Government. Present at the dinner on the Soviet side were Comrades Gorbachev, Ligachev, Aliyev, Shevardnadze, Talyzin, and Dobrynin; deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR Ministers; Chairmen of USSR State Committees; and other officials.

A speech was delivered at the dinner by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary. He said:

Esteemed Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid,

Friends, comrades,

It gives us pleasure to welcome in Moscow the party and government delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. We consider your visit to be a new stage in the development of Soviet-South Yemen relations on the basis of our treaty of friendship and cooperation.

The people of South Yemen have travelled an arduous path of liberation from colonialism and the establishment of their own state. We were in solidarity with them in that patriotic struggle. They you could rely on Soviet support in making your independent choice in favor of social progress with due regard for the historical and national specific features of your people.

This year the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen will mark the 20th anniversary of their diplomatic relations. The legal and political base of our relationships, including the above mentioned treaty and other agreements, protocols and joint plans to regulate Soviet-South Yemen cooperation, has been developed during these years. Naturally, we would like that cooperation to continue to serve in the best possible way the progress of your country and friendship between our peoples.

Your visit is taking place shortly after an important event in the life of our party and country, the January plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee. The plenary meeting gave a fresh stong impetus to the revolutionary reorganization of Soviet society and forcefully formulated guarantees that the process of change, called upon to lead socialsim to qualitatively new frontiers, is irreversible.

Reorganization was conceived and started and is unfolding in the interests of the Soviet people. Ever greater masses of people are becoming involved in it and are viewing it with utmost seriousness and responsibility as their personal cause. They consider their creative participation in it to be their civic and patriotic duty.

Soviet people are perfectly aware of the international importance of reorganization as well. Its success will be a decisive contribution of socialism to the cause of peace and progress at a new stage of contemporary history, on the threshold of centuries and millennia.

Our reorganization is another incontrovertible proof of our peaceable intentions, our choice of principle in favor of peaceful coexistence, progress and equal cooperation among states. It is our choice of life.

The course of reorganization on the domestic scene is at the same time a program for nuclear weapon-free peace for the whole of mankind, proclaimed by us a year ago, a policy which is an extension of Reykjavik, the Delhi declaration, the Budapest initiative launched jointly with European socialist countries, and our readiness to contribute to the strengthening of peace and security in Asia and the Pacific.

The Soviet Union will do everything within its power to check the arms race and convert the resources consumed by it to constructive purposes, to the good of its own people and to necessary aid to the needy.

The Soviet Union is in solidarity with countries of the Nonaligned Movement in their striving to counter the Policy of new globalism with a new world economic order.

It stands side by side with them for the right of every people to independent socio-political choice, which means that every state has sovereignty over its resources and can count on international support if its independence and vital interests are jeopardized.

Democratic Yemen is making a contribution to the normalization of international relations.

Our countries are united by a common approach to the Middle East problem and other regional conflicts, which have been plaguing the world for many years now. Recourse to force and armed actions in attempts to impose imperialist "order" in foreign lands has become a sort of norm in the Arab east. We all remember an outrageous act of aggression against Libya and brute blackmail of Syria. The U.S. is now massing its naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean and in the Persian Gulf. Threats are being openly made to use them to "punish" a people and a state for the reckless and criminal actions of a handful of extremists.

Terrorism indeed is a bad evil, a scourge of our time. But to try to uproot it with state terrorism means to perpetrate an even worse crime because even larger numbers of human lives, the sovereignty of states and international law, let alone common morality and justice, fall victim to it. What we have is a vicious circle of violence and bloodshed as a result.

The Middle East conflict mirrors the causes behind tension on the international scene. They are encroachment on the inalienable lawful rights of peoples, intervention in their internal affairs, intrigues, threats, subversive actions intended to destablize governments not to one's liking, to subordinate others to one's interests and to dominate.

We have stated on more than one occasion the Soviet Union's readiness to contribute to the settlement of the conflict between Israel and the Arabs. A proposal was made to this end for the establishment of a preparatory committee within the framework of the U.N. Security Council to convene an international conference on the Middle East. It has won broad support in the world community. The U.N. General Assembly and non-aligned and Moslem countries at representative forums in Harare and Kuwait called for such an approach.

The idea behind the preparatory committee is to work jointly, through multilateral discussions and bilateral contacts and with flexibility and a constructive approach, to involve all the parties immediately concerned in businesslike and serious negotiations, that is, to do all the work necessary to convene an international conference.

The senseless fierce war between Iraq and Iran is a serious worry. The threat of other countries and forces becoming directly involved in the conflict keeps growing. War is deadly for both countries, it has not produced solutions to contentious problems and cannot do so. An end must be put to that war, and the sooner the better, through political negotiations. There is no alternative.

Comrades, friends,

The people of Democratic Yemen lived through a period of difficulties and faced grim trials. The tragic events of January 1986, large loss of life and damage to property saddened the Soviet people.

Bidden by our duty of friendship and solidarity, we tried to help our Yemen friends to overcome the crisis and speedily put an end to bloodshed. In so doing, we were always confident that the Yemen Socialist Party would be a match for that trial, learn its lesson, mobilize itself to rectify mistakes that had been made and preserve in the country the progressive regime so needed by its people.

Supported by friends, Democratic Yemen defended its right to decide its destiny independently, without outside intervention.

The main result of the work done to overcome the consequences of the January events is that the progressive regime in the country has stood its grounds and that the Yemen Socialist Party has been given an opportunity to go ahead with the development of the country in accordance with the choice made by the South Yemen people.

Normalcy in the country and the consolidation and broadening of the achievements of the South Yemen revolution are a guarantee of the restoration of the international positions and prestige of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

We wish that you, Comrade Al-Bid, and the other leaders of the republic may put that difficult hurdle [as received] behind you as soon as possible and may rally the party and the people together in building a progressive democratic state and in the struggle for the national interests of Democratic Yemen. Clearly, it is a very responsible task. In tackling it, the South Yemen friends are having and will always have the Soviet Union's unfailing support.

Once again I welcome you to Moscow dear dear friends.

A speech was then made by 'Ali Salim al-Bid. The speeches by Comrades Gorbachev and Al-Bid were listened to attentively and greeted with applause. The dinner took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Al-Bid Dinner Speech

PM121431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report on speech by 'A.S. Al-Bid, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, at 10 February Kremlin dinner under the general heading: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] Dear Comrades! Dear Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev!

It is with a sense of tremendous joy that we have come to the Soviet Union, to the great Lenin's country which is the cradle of the socialist system and the bulwark of peace, socialism, and proletarian internationalism on our planet, for meetings and talks with friends, like-minded people, and comrades in the common struggle. I wish to take this opportunity to express profound gratitude on behalf of all the delegation members for the hospitality and great attention shown us from the first minute of our stay in the Soviet Union.

Comrades!

Our present visit to the Soviet Union is taking place along the lines of the further development and strengthening of the close relations between our parties and countries sealed by the 1979 Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. They are founded on our common adherence to the great ideas of scientific socialism and proletarian internationalism.

Life has confirmed the significance of strong friendship between Democratic Yemen and the Soviet Union. This has been expressed in the Soviet Union's support for the struggle of our party and people to preserve national independence, build and strengthen the working people's power, develop the economy, strengthen the defense capability, and deepen the revolutionary process of a socialist orientation under the Yemeni Socialist Party's leadership.

Over the past 20 years Soviet-Yemeni friendship has become inseparably linked with signs of our people's new life. It has been one of the tributaries of the deep river of Soviet-Arab friendship which feeds strength into the Arab peoples' struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction and which is a reliable mainstay in the Arabs' just cause. We will continue to work to strengthen friendship with the Soviet Union, which is rightly considered the cornerstone of the struggle of our party and people on the path of a socialist orientation. In this connection I wish to express our satisfaction with the results of the talks held with the Soviet leadership.

Comrades!

Our visit to the Soviet Union is of great significance and is taking place 1 year after the bloody conspiracy of 12 January organized by a right-wing opportunist minority grouping. During this year our party has been able to achieve great successes in eliminating the consequences of that conspiracy, healing the wounds inflicted, strengthening security and stability, restoring the competence of the party, the state apparatus, public organizations, and the national economy, showing concern for the families of those who died or were maimed, strengthening the people's national unity, and restoring the international position of the party and the state.

These successes are inseparable from the internationalist support which the Soviet Union has given our party and people and which has played a great role in achieving the successes. [paragraph continues]

It was expressed in the firm internationalist stand against foreign interference in our country's internal affairs which the Soviet Union took at the time of the bloody January events.

The USSR's resolute stand strengthened the fortitude of our party and people. It made it possible to defend the course of socialist orientation against the dangers threatening it and the consequences of the conspiracy, which was accompanied by mass slaughter resulting in the deaths of many leaders and our party's best cadres, primarily these recognized leaders of the party and the revolution -- 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, 'Ali 'Antar, Salih Muslih Qasim, and 'Alih Shaya' Hadi.

We confirm our desire to struggle resolutely to surmount all the consequences of the January events and the difficulties they created in full accordance with the national interests of our party and people. To this end we will make efforts to solve the refugee problem and will work with all who were misled and who have not yet returned to the motherland on the basis of the general amnesty decree published by the Supreme People's Council Presidium in March 1986 and extended through the end of June 1987.

We will spare no effort to strengthen security and stability in both parts of Yemen and to activate joint actions with the leadership of the Yemen Arab Republic in the name of achieving the unity of the Yemeni motherland and its people on a peaceful democratic basis. We will continue work on strengthening relations with all neighboring countries on the basis of mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs, and constructive cooperation with all fraternal Arab states for the good of our common interests and the Arabs' just cause.

Our party is now still more firmly inclined to follow the revolutionary course charted in its political program, which is built on the basis of the theory of scientific socialism and proletarian internationalism and directed by the revolutionary leadership along the path of totally eliminating the vestiges of the colonial and feudal past, the path of socialist orientation.

We firmly intend to eliminate the gap between theory and practice, between word and deed, to correct manifestations of right-wing bias in economic policy, to give scope to the development of the country's productive forces, and to eliminate distortions in our foreign economic and foreign trade ties and bring them into line with the aims of socialist orientation.

We want, Al-Bid went on to say, to confirm our immutable support for all peace initiatives and efforts aimed at eliminating the hotbed of tension in Asia and strengthening security and stability on the Asian continent, and primarily the DRA Government's initiative for achieving national reconciliation in Afghanistan. Supporting that initiative, we call for the efforts of the DRA government and the Afghan people's various forces to be pooled in the name of achieving a national dialogue, defending the country's independence, and ending all kinds of external interference in its affairs.

Comrades!

Permit me once again to express the feelings of sincere joy which we always experience in the city of peace -- Moscow -- and in an atmosphere of true friendship, of which we are very proud.

In conclusion 'A.S. al-Bid wished M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and all those present good health and proposed a toast to Soviet-Yemeni friendship.

'ARAFAT SENDS 'URGENT' MESSAGE TO GORBACHEV

JN101453 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1350 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Tunis, 10 Feb (WAKH) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today sent an urgent message to Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the serious developments in Lebanon's Palestinian camps. It has been learned from a Palestinian source that this is the second message which Yasir 'Arafat has sent to the Soviet leadership in the past 72 hours. In his message, the Palestinian leader urged the Soviet leadership to intervene immediately and to use it influence to stop the war of annihilation against Palestinians in Lebanon.

Yasir 'Arafat today also sent an urgent cable to Zuhdi al-Tarazi, the PLO's UN representative, calling for an emergency security council session to discuss the continuous aggressions against the Palestinians in the Lebanese camps, to find a way to stop these aggressions, and to guarantee the arrival of supplies and medical aid to the camps.

OFFICIAL OUTLINES POLICY ON GULF REGION

LD121355 Kuwait KUNA in English 1322 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Feb 12 (KUNA) A senior Soviet official has reasserted the Soviet Union's support for the legitimate interests of the countries of the Gulf Region.

Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Middle East and North African Department as well as advisor of the Soviet leader for Arab-Soviet relations told AL-ITTIHAD newspaper: "The Soviet Union views that the Gulf states are free in their dealings with their natural resources and regards them as independent in their behavior in the international arena."

Polyakov also said that the Soviet Union and the GCC states hold "identical" views on issues related to preserving peace, an end to the arms race and just and peaceful solutions to all regional problems including the Middle East and the Iraq-Iran war.

On the economic and commercial cooperation between the Soviet Union and the GCC states, he said the Soviet Union is always keen on developing industrial relations with all Arab Gulf states adding a good example is the trade protocol agreement signed with Kuwait in 1986.

On the Soviet policy towards the 6 1/2 year old Iraq-Iran war and its impact on the security of the region, he said Soviet government statements have indicated that it was "keen on sparing the region from the dangers of armed confrontation as part of its attempts to create basis for peace throughout the world."

Polyakov also stressed that his country supports the establishment of a peaceful zone in the Arab Gulf and calls for a formula to guarantee passage in waterways in the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz and sovereignty of coastal states on their natural resources.

Polyakov also said "The Soviet Union considers it essential to preserve the stability of the region and avert the establishment of foreign military bases in the Arab Gulf and the neighbouring islands, avoid the spread of nuclear weapons or any other weapons that would lead to total annihilation as well as non-interference in the internal affairs of the region."

It also views that "it is essential to refrain from using force or threats, respect the non-alignment of the Arab countries and refrain from dragging them into military blocs."

ALGERIAN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD101151 Algiers APS in English 1028 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 10/2/87 (APS) -- Mr Ismail Hamdani, CC member, secretary general at the Foreign Affairs Ministry arrived on Monday [9 Feb] in Moscow for a visit within the framework of the political consultations between [words indistinct] of agreement of 27th March 1986. Upon his arrival, Mr Hamdani and the delegation accompanying him, Soviet foreign minister are welcomed by Mr Yuliy Vorontsov Soviet prime vice minister of Foreign Ministry, Mr Abdallah Fadhel, Central Committee, Algeria ambassador in USSR as well as other members of Algeria's ambassador to Moscow. [sentence as received]

Meets With Officials

LD112246 Algiers APS in Arabic 1620 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 11 Feb (APS) -- Mr Ismail Hamdani, general secretary of the Algerian Foreign Ministry and member of the Central Committee of the FLN, who is currently visiting Moscow, continues his talks with the Soviet officials. Before noon today the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry held talks with Mr. Yuliy Vorontsov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union.

Following these talks a ceremony was held during which the ratification documents of the long-term economic, scientific, and technical cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries during President Chadli Bendjedid's visit to the Soviet Union in March 1986 were exchanged. On his arrival last Monday Mr Hamdani also met with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign affairs minister.

DELEGATE ADDRESSES IRAQI YOUTH CONFERENCE

PM121659 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Youth News"]

[Text] The 13th congress of the Iraqi National Union of Students and Young People has begun work in the Iraqi capital.

Youth delegations from various countries of the world including the Soviet Union are taking part in the congress' work. A speech of greetings to the delegates was delivered by F. Mukhametshin, leader of the Soviet delegation and deputy chairman of the USSR Committee of Youth Organizations.

ANATOLIY GROMYKO ON 6-DAY VISIT TO EGYPT

For reportage on a 6-day visit to Egypt by Anatoliy Gromyko, director of the Africa Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, including his meeting with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, see the Egypt section of the 12 February Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BRUTENTS DELEGATION RETURNS FROM SYRIA, LEBANON

PM111232 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return to Moscow"]

[Text] K.N. Brutents, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section, has returned to Moscow after going to Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and to Lebanon to take part in the work of the Fifth Lebanese Communist Party Congress.

PRAVDA NOTES ENDING OF LEBANESE CP CONGRESS

PM100909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by unnamed PRAVDA own correspondent and TASS: "Results Summed Up. Close of Fifth Lebanese Communist Party Congress"]

[Text] B'aglin (Mount Lebanon Province), 7 Feb -- The Lebanese Communist Party Congress has completed its work here. The delegates' attention was focused on the urgent problems that Lebanon is encountering. It is a question, above all, of a serious threat hanging over the country -- the danger of new American intervention, the continuing Israeli occupation of the south of the country, and the protracted internal political crisis.

The concluding session approved the congress documents. The new composition of the party's leading organs was elected. George Hawi again became general secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee, and Karim Muruwah and Nadim 'Abd-al Samad were elected deputy general secretaries of the Central Committee.

PRAVDA VIEWS OPENING OF CAIRO SEMINAR ON GULF WAR

PM131137 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Topical Problems Under Discussion"]

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb -- An international seminar "For an End to the Iran-Iraq War" opened in the Egyptian capital today. Representatives from almost 50 countries, including the USSR, and from several international organizations are taking part in the work of this major forum, organized on the initiative of AAPSO and the WPC.

The agenda of the seminar, which will last 3 days, includes the quest for ways for the speediest termination of the bloody conflict and discussion of problems of the struggle against the adventurist policy of international imperialism and Zionism aimed at protracting and escalating this fratricidal war.

Speaking at the opening of the seminar, WPC President Romesh Chandra accused the forces of imperialism, and primarily the United States, of deliberately fanning the war in order to sow the seeds of disagreement and mistrust among peoples and thus pave the way toward establishing their domination in that part of the world.

PRISON DEATH OF DISSIDENT MOROZOV CONFIRMED

AU121203 Paris AFP in English 1139 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, Feb 12 (AFP) -- The Soviet dissident mathematician Mark Morozov died last summer at the Chistopol Prison, where another dissident Anatoliy Marchenko also succumbed in early December, a former co-prisoner has revealed.

Morozov, 54, simulated a suicide attempt in August of last year and died shortly afterward, Sergey Grigoryants told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Thursday.

Morozov's death was announced last September by a human rights group in West Germany but was never confirmed in the Soviet Union. The dissident mathematician was sentenced in 1981 to nine years in prison and five years in exile.

According to Mr. Grigoryants, who was released on parole last week after serving time for "anti-Soviet propaganda," Morozov was seriously ill and had protested several times against the lack of medical treatment at Chistopol, 600 kilometers (375 miles) east of Moscow.

On August 1 last year, he "simulated a suicide attempt by hanging to put pressure on the authorities" and took pills. He stayed in a coma for two days and was found dead the morning of the third day, Mr Grigoryants said.

WESTERN REPORTERS ASSAULTED WHILE FILMING PROTEST

AU111005 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, Feb 11 (AFP) -- A Western television cameraman was roughed up here Wednesday as dozens of youths bustled reporters attending a demonstration in the center of the capital in support of the right to emigrate to Israel.

The youths, apparently organized into groups, also seriously damaged the equipment of two television crews, of the U.S. channel ABC and the French TF1 station. Militia on the scene did not intervene.

About 30 demonstrators had assembled, for the third day running, on a street close to the Soviet Foreign Ministry at 10.00 a.m. (0700 GMT).

Several dozen youths, who had already shown hostility to the demonstrators Tuesday, again began to shout abuse, including anti-semitic slogans, and tear down the protestors' placards.

The local mayor also urged the demonstrators to disperse, and after about 20 minutes they did so. The youths then turned their attentions to the journalists close by.

Inna Begun, the wife of jailed dissident Iossif Begun and an organizer of the two previous demonstrations, appeared to be under house arrest Wednesday after being prevented from attending the morning protest.

The "refuzniks" -- Jews denied exit visas for Israel -- have decided to try demonstrating again Thursday. They had been able to demonstrate for 90 minutes Monday and 45 minutes Tuesday before dispersing owing to hostile passers-by.

BBC INTERVIEWS GERASIMOV ON RELEASE OF PRISONERS

LD111455 London BBC Television Network in English 1318 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Interview with Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Department, by Anchorman Martyn Lewis, via telephone link with BBC studio in Moscow -- live]

[Text] [Lewis] Mr Gerasimov, there are an estimated 4,000 political dissidents still in prison. Why didn't you release them too?

[Gerasimov] Where did you get this figure from?

[Lewis] Well, this is the generally accepted figure from dissidents who are living in the West.

[Gerasimov] Accepted by whom? There is a feedback, can you abolish it? Because I hear my own voice coming back to me.

[Lewis] Well, let me try again now, because I understand we are having some technical problems with the sound line Mr Gerasimov. Let me put the question this way: You have more political dissidents still in prison. Why are you not releasing them at the same time as the 140 that came out?

[Gerasimov] We have people who are in prison under Article 70 of our criminal code, which deals with anti-Soviet propaganda and actions. And these people -- and, of course, the number is less than the number you said to me -- these people can write an application to the authorities asking to review the case. These applications are taken by the authorities with a sympathetic view and usually these people are now released so now we have 140 out of jail, so to say, and approximately the same number is under review. And this is almost the end of it. I don't think that we will have many more people.

[Lewis] You are saying that there were only 280 political prisoners in the Soviet Union before yesterday?

[Gerasimov] I am not saying that we have political prisoners at all. This is your phrase. You see, we do not jail people for their views; we do jail them for their actions. Under Article 70, these people were imprisoned in court but now we are reviewing the cases sympathetically after they filed their applications. That is the case.

[Lewis] You are insisting, though, that in order for these people to be released they have to sign promises that they will not indulge in what you call antistate activities. Now, one of the characteristics of democracy, which you say you are moving to and which we take for granted in the West, is an ability to disagree in public with your government. Will you allow these dissidents who are being released to do that?

[Gerasimov] Well, as a matter of fact, there is plenty of disagreement in my country nowadays. [paragraph continues]

If you read the newspapers on a daily basis there are all kinds of opinions, and for instance, I can give you an example: Just now our criminal code is under review and Article 70, in particular, is also under review with a tendency to soften, so to say, the punishment and to decrease the so-called prison population. There are people who argue against it.

[Lewis] Can I ask you specifically if the dissidents who are being freed now will be allowed to protest publicly if they disagree with their government?

[Gerasimov] Yes, they protested yesterday or the day before yesterday.

[Lewis] Yes, but this morning, for example, television crews have gone around to film a protest in Moscow and they have been stopped from filming. That is not the sign of a country that is moving toward democratization.

[Gerasimov] What were they protesting against? I don't know.

[Lewis] They were protesting about a dissident who was not released because he refused to sign a statement promising he would not indulge in anti-Soviet activities.

[Gerasimov] Well, he can be released, but then he will be jailed again if his actions will be against state interests. That's it; when you are in Rome, do as Romans do. If you want to join the society again you must be a good citizen.

OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON JEWISH EMIGRATION

AU101117 Vienna PROFIL in German No 6, 9 Feb 87 pp 36-38

[Interview given by Samuil Zivs, deputy chairman of the Association of Soviet Jurists, deputy chairman of the Soviet USSR-United States Institute, "meritorious scientist of the people," and acting first vice president of the "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public," to PROFIL reporter Michael Siegert "last week" in Vienna]

[Text] PROFIL: Professor Zivs, you recently surprised the public with the announcement that about 500 Soviet Jews had received emigration visas in January. This is already half the number in the whole of 1986, when there was absolutely the lowest number of Jewish emigrants since the exodus in 1969. Is a new wave of emigration in the offing?

Zivs: I do not like the word exodus very much. It was mainly family reunification. Since 1939 there had been no possibilities for Jews to emigrate to the West, not even from Poland. Even Menachem Begin emigrated via the Soviet Union. To date a total of 373,000 Jews have emigrated.

PROFIL: And how many still want to emigrate?

Zivs: In the West it is sometimes said that 400,000 Jews want to leave the Soviet Union. This is totally incorrect. The number of applications is about 10,000. The people have not received permission to emigrate so far because they have not fulfilled the conditions for family reunifications or because they have come to know secrets as a result of their work. Since the beginning of the year we have had a new decree of the Council of Ministers....

PROFIL: ...which, however, grants the right to family reunification only to close relatives.

Zivs: In January it was decided to reconsider those cases which do not concern close relatives. This resulted in the 400 to 500 permits. The decree also guarantees that an application is processed within a month and that reasons must be given for a rejection.

PROFIL: It is possible to appeal against a rejection?

Zivs: So far we have not had any opportunity for administrative complaints, but such a law is currently under discussion. All old applications are now being reconsidered and if there is any possibility of deciding in a favorable way this is done. We do not want to apply our regulations in a restrictive way, but extensively, democratically, and in a humanitar an way.

PROFIL: In mid-1983, at the first press conference of the Anti-Zionist Committee, you said the reunification of Jewish families is coming to an end and, therefore, the number of emigrants will go down.

Zivs: If an uncle invites a nephew, this is no longer family in the narrower sense of the word. But these cases now no longer meet with any unnecessary complications.

PROFIL: Why does one have to have relatives if one wants to emigrate? Is it not a basic human right to choose one's place of residence?

Zivs: The Helsinki process applies to family reunifications. If national security interests are concerned the state has the right to refuse pernmission to emigrate. After all, we live in a complicated world.

PROFIL: Why do emigrants endanger national security?

Zivs: Especially because Jews are not discriminated against in the Soviet Union they are working in many sensitive areas. If the Reykjavik package were accepted and nuclear weapons were abolished then it would probably be possible to abolish all these restrictions, too. Then one would be able to travel everywhere without visas and without being checked at borders.

PROFIL: By the way, a few former Soviet Jews have been waiting here for permission to return to the USSR for quite some time.

Zivs: During the next few days a group of more than 20 people will be able to return to the Soviet Union from Vienna. Some of them wrote me a letter, including a young man called Kanayev, who was an Israeli soldier in the war in Lebanon. He deserted and was imprisoned in Israel. There will also be some larger groups from the United States. At the end of December in Moscow, I myself received 56 people -- most of them Jews -- who had returned from the United States. About another 1,000 have applied for permission to return. The artists said that everything they had created abroad was only a reminiscence of their life in Russia. How long can one draw from this source? One is soon at an end.

PROFIL: Professor Zivs, your Anti-Zionist Committee is concerned about anti-semitism in the United States. You sent a telegram to Congress and have written newspaper articles. Would you not have enough reasons in your country, too, to combat anti-semitism? Even in your own committee, since you have a vice president called Yuriy Kolesnikov, who in 1973 published a novel entitled "The Promised Land." [paragraph continues]

In this book he reveals that Eichmann was a Zionist agent and describes the killing of the Jews as a joint action of Nazis and secret Zionist world rulers. How can you, as a Jew, work with someone who has such an anti-semitic fabrication on his conscience?

Zivs: I think you are exaggerating the contents of Kolesnikov's book. As a writer, he, too, has the right to describe Eichmann as he sees him. There are documents about Eichmann's journey to Palestine and about his connections there. I do not want to discuss this now, I only want to tell you that the Anti-Zionist Committee has this name in particular because we contradict the basic assertion of the Zionists that the Soviet Jews are part of the general Jewish nation, with Israel as their homeland. The homeland of the Soviet Jews is the Soviet Union -- this is also the opinion of the overwhelming majority of Soviet Jews.

PROFIL: And Soviet anti-semitism?

Zivs: I would say that there are remnants of anti-semitism in our country at the level of day-to-day human relations, but not at the ideological level. We strictly reject any kind of national chauvinsim; this was also stressed by Gorbachev. If people come to our committee and say that they have been insulted by anti-semitic expressions, we do what is necessary to start legal procedures. We react very consistently to anti-semitic expressions. I make no secret of the fact that I consider certain books wrong.

PROFIL: Would you count Kolesnikov's novel among them?

Zivs: I think it would be wrong to call Kolesnikov an anti-semite. I do not want to say that everything in this novel is correct, but I know the man; he is not the anti-semitic type.

PROFIL: What do you say about the writer Lev Korneyev, who last year tried to prove in OGONEK magazine that the CIA is dominated by Israel because some of its members have Jewish names?

Zivs: I do not know this article, but personally I am against many things that Korneyev has written; some of them are wrong. Unfortunately Korneyev is often treated as a spokesman for certain positions.

PROFIL: What do you say about the policy of the Soviet state toward the Jews in general? Was it not discrimination that in the 1930's a reservation for Soviet Jews was established in remote Siberia in the form of the Autonomous Jewish Region of Birobijan?

Zivs: This was not established as a reservation; one looked for an area where a Jewish settlement would not be questioned. A very fertile and nice area was found for some enthusists who wanted to settle there.

PROFIL: But only 2 or 3 percent of the Soviet Jews live there.

Zivs: Before the revolution Jews were assigned places to live; these could be called reservations. Now the Jews are spread over the entire country and it is a positive fact that there is an Autonomous Jewish Region with Jewish people who want to live there and which has a Jewish leadership. Nobody is forced to live there. Not only has the physical ghetto been eliminated but also the psychological one, if it is no longer foremost in people's minds whether one is a Jew or not.

PROFIL: If one wants to think about it, it is made easier for one because Soviet identity cards still give the nationality, that is "yevrei" ("Jewish").

Zivs: But they give the nationality of all 150 ethnic groups. It would only be a discrimination if the Jews were the only ones.

PROFIL: Over the past few years there has been a big decline in the percentage of Jewish students. In mathematics, in particular, where after the war one-third of the students were Jews, the number has been pushed down to about 1 percent, which corresponds to the percentage of Jews in the overall population.

Zivs: The absolute numbers of Jewish students are not decreasing! In mathematics, in particular, their percentage was much higher at a time when there were no Tajik, Georgian, and Uzbek mathematicians. Furthermore, the prestige subjects have shifted. In former times everyone wanted to study mathematics and physics, but now the humanities are in fashion.

PROFIL: How many members does your Anti-Zionist Committee have?

Zivs: We do not have any individual members. Various people in various cities support us. We get thousands of letters and answering them is a lot of work. Some people turn to us with complaints, for instance, if somebody has problems with his job. Then he says: Perhaps it is because I am a Jew; please, help me.

PROFIL: Could your committee become a "Union of the Jews?"

Zivs: This committee is working as an internationalist community. There are many Jews in it, but also Russians, and members of other nationalities. In the Soviet Union we do not have a special organization of Georgians or Uzbeks, either.

PROFIL: Professor Zivs, will there soon be a general amnesty for political and religious prisoners in the Soviet Union? In the past, it was always the best known dissidents who were released. What happens with the other 200 whom the Soviet justice minister referred to here in Vienna? Or with the 600 whose names are known to Amnesty International? Or are there even 700 to 2,000, as Sakharov estimates?

Zivs: I think, if these people send petitions for pardons to the responsible authorities these petitions will be conscientiously considered. Many of these people originally advocated certain opinions, but were then sentenced for common offenses.

PROFIL: Of course, it causes suspicion in the West when an opposition member or one who wants to emigrate is suddenly imprisoned for "hooliganism."

Zivs: There were people who wanted to emigrate and then thought they could now do everything, even drug trafficking. If somebody like that asks for a pardon, this will also be very conscientiously considered.

PROFIL: What is happening to the Soviet proposal for a human rights conference in Moscow within the framework of the CSCE? Will it take place even if the Americans do not come?

Zivs: I think that we still have enough time to convince our partners. The fact that the Soviet Union made this proposal is also a part of the new reality. In former times this issue often put the USSR into a defensive position.

PROFIL: Will non-official groups also be able to appear at the fringe of this conference, like in Vienna?

Zivs: There will be some surprises in this respect. From 14 to 16 February there will be an open forum in Moscow on the topic "For a Nuclear-Free World, For the Survival of Mankind."

PROFIL: It is said that Andrey Sakharov has been invited to speak at this forum.

Zivs: I would not exclude this.

YUGOSLAV PAPER DISCUSSES ISLAM IN USSR

AU090953 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Jan-1 Feb 87 p 13

[Dragan Vukcevic article: "The Dream of Atheists and the Awakening of the Faithful"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] There are about 45 million Muslims in the USSR (predominantly Sunnis and Shi'ites), and it is estimated that there will be about 65 million by the end of the century. They are concentrated in the six Central Asian republics, which were annexed to Russia in the period from the end of the 18th Century up to the beginning of the 20th Century. The majority of them are religious, particularly in the countryside. The number of mosques and of trained and especially self-proclaimed mullahs has increased in recent years, although naturally not without the influence of neighboring Asian countries, primarily Iran. In Baku, one can see Khomeyni's photographs on the Iranian consulate and in the town.

New investigations show that the number of the faithful is not increasing only among old people but also among the young. A. Tursanov, doctor of philosophy of Dushanbe, says that it has become obvious that the old idea that the more educated a person is, the further he is from religion, was just "correct thinking" ["pravolinijastvo"]. In fact, it is no longer a secret that many people with higher education, and even scientific titles, have become "transformed" and have joined the faithful. The majority of the faithful were born and educated in the Soviet era, Tursanov stresses, and one must not "close one's eyes" to this fact.

Atheistic propaganda activities now are under fire from two sides: The party leadership demands that a number of "essential gaps" in the theory and practice of atheism should be overcome quickly, while the Muslim faithful (many being nationalistically colored) accuse the atheists of pulling down old places of worship and monuments to national heroes, and of directly narrowing down the leeway for religious rituals. A voluntary society, the "Union of Militant Atheists," was formed in the USSR in 1925; a magazine, THE UNBELIEVER, was published between 1922 and 1941, and a journal of the same name has been published since 1925. At the same time, the magazines ATHEIST and MILITANT ATHEIST were printed. All this activity often had the attributes of rashness and of "excessive militancy." Now the journal SCIENCE AND RELIGION is being printed, and it is assessed to be neither persuasive nor rash.

Official reaction to the accusations against atheistic propaganda now takes the form of explanation. The errors and gaps in the past are not denied, but reasons are cited because of which the ideology of Islam -- said to be a "civilizing religion" -- is not accepted. Simply: Those who, in their time, "with fire and sword introduced Islam" into Central Asia, did not shrink from the systematic destruction of monuments of culture and civilization of the subjugated peoples. Considering the fact that the Central Asian peoples (in the territory of the present Soviet republics) and those in Afghanistan and Iran began, from the 16th Century onward, to lag in their development, a great (and according to some, the major) part of the historical fault is to be attributed to Islam, which enveloped this large area with "a thick fog of superstition."

Soviet politicians and scientists have been disturbed because the apologists of Islam, certainly those in their country, systematically utilize the subject of "Islam and culture" to ideologically advertise "the superior cultural role of Islam." The example has been mentioned of the politicization of the jubilee of "15 centuries since the beginning of the Muslim era," which is counted from 622, when "the last prophet," Muhammad, and his disciples moved from Mecca to Medina. The caution in the USSR at the spread of Islam as an ideology is obvious, for it is ceasing to be an exclusively Oriental phenomenon. [passage omitted]

How is one to avoid the dream of the atheists and the awakening of the faithful? One gets the impression that the retention of atheist propaganda is not under dispute, but rather propaganda with its ossified methods, which has been reduced from the earlier "enlightenment by directive" chiefly to lectures on "elements of scientific atheism" at universities and specialized schools. The place from which ideas and program are spread is the Academy of Social Sciences of the CPSU Central Committee, within which a special Institute of Scientific Atheism was formed in 1964. [passage omitted]

USSR, RSFSR COMPOSERS UNION SECRETARIATS MEET

PM111125 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Composers' Discussion"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the secretariats of the boards of the USSR and RSFSR Composers Union and the Moscow Composers Organizations was held in the capital 9 February.

T.N. Khrennikov, first secretary of the USSR Composers Union Board, and other speakers emphasized that the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) plenum decisions aim at a cardinal reinterpretation of the creative union's entire work.

Ye.V. Zaytsev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Section, participated in the session.

RSFSR: TAMBOV OBKOM LEADER REPLIES TO IZVESTIYA

PM101315 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[Report by Ye. Podolskiy, first secretary of the Tambov CPSU Obkom, under the rubric: "Responding to Criticism": "'Metamorphosis'"]

[Text] The Tambov CPSU Obkom considers that the article "Metamorphosis," published in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 6 January 1987, reflects corectly and objectively the facts and causes of the moral decline of V.A. Nesterov, former second secretary of the party obkom.

The question of V.A. Nesterov's unseemly conduct was examined 10 January 1987 at the fifth plenum of the CPSU obkom. The plenum noted that the facts set forth in the article "Metamorphosis" accord with reality. V.A. Nesterov committed an act unworthy of the lofty title of CPSU member and of the post he held.

The CPSU obkom plenum approved the party obkom bureau 6 December 1986 resolution "on the unseemly conduct of CPSU obkom Second Secretary V.A. Nesterov" and decreed that he be expelled from the CPSU and relieved of his post as second secretary and of his duties as member of the party obkom bureau for his unseemly conduct and for having compromised himself.

The party obkom plenum drew the attention of the bureau and of CPSU obkom secretaries Comrades Ye.M. Podolskiy, L.M. Shcherbanov, V. Ye. Zverev, and V.N. Krolev to existing shortcomings in the work on the selecting, placing, and educating cadres in the oblast party organization. It demanded that they seek the unconditional observance of Lenin's principles of work with cadres and the norms of party life in all party, soviet, and economic organs and in public organizations.

The plenum rebuked sections of the CPSU obkom for failing to make adequate demands on leading cadres of all echelons for observing party and state discipline and the norms of communist morality.

The CPSU obkom party control commission and its chairman, Comrade N.P. Korotnov, were instructed to display a stricter approach toward assessing the results of checks connected with the negative phenomena allowed by communists, especially leading workers. There must be an increae in exactingness and responsibility for the all-round and objective examination of reports on violations of the norms of party life and the principles of communist morality and socialist justice.

The plenum demanded that the CPSU gorkoms and raykoms draw the correct conclusions from existing shortcomings in their work, especially in the selection, placement, and education of cadres, resolutely restructure the style and methods of their activity, and seek to create a businesslike atmosphere and mutual exactingness among communists in every party organization and to enhance party members' personal responsibility for the state of affairs.

Openness must be ensured in work with cadres and we must seek to ensure that newspapers and local radio broadcasts resolutely and boldly reveal shortcomings in the selection, placement, and education of cadres and frankly name specific people holding back the course of restructuring.

Cadres must be educated using all forms of mass political work in a spirit of criticism and self-criticism, objective assessment of the results of their activity, and implacability toward various violations.

16,000 EVACUATED DURING GEORGIAN SNOWS, FLOODS

LD102001 Moscow TASS in English 1938 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Tbilisi February 10 TASS -- Rescue and construction work is at a high pace in areas in Georgia, a Soviet Transcaucasian republic, that were hit by natural disaster -- heavy snowfalls and floods. More than 16 thousand people were evacuated to safety. Aid is given to injured and sick. Food, fuel and medicines are flown to populated localities cut off from centres by avalanches. Extraordinary measures are taken to restore communications, electricity and water supply, railway and automobile traffic.

IZVESTIYA Report

PM110923 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian in its Morning Edition for 10 February 1987 carries on page 3 an 1,800-word report by IZVESTIYA correspondent T. Chanturiya, datelined Georgian SSR under the headline "Days of Sorrow and Courage: How the Consequences of the Natural Disaster in Georgia Are Being Eliminated." The author describes the plight of victims of the recent severe weather conditions, the generosity and courage of rescue workers, and the local people's confidence that help will come. He writes: "The old woman did not know that just 100 meters away Revaz Kakuliya, deputy minister of finance, was sitting, immersed in calculations so that as soon as tomorrow single payment grants could be paid out and teams of the Gosstrakh [Main Administration of State Insurance], the Ministry of Finance, and the State Bank could set out to visit families to assess the size and type of other payments.... The old woman did not know this, but nonetheless, she was sure that help would come." The author reports that the republic staff for eliminating the consequences of the natural disaster is working from Kutaisi and is headed by Z.A. Chkheidze, first deputy chairman of the Georgian Council of Ministers. "Zurab Amvrosiyevich Chkheidze, chairman of the government commission, finds time for an interview with IZVESTIYA. With a visible effort, the chairman of the staff tears himself away from reading the paper which cast a shadow over his face. 'Mestia, Mestia,' he says, 'this is what causes us pain....Dozens of people have perished in the rayon. There are villages about the fate of which nothing has been known for days -- they cannot be reached by either land or air. Two detachments of mountaineers -- mountain rescue workers with medical training -- have arrived. They are making their way to places that pilots cannot reach, then helicopters will be called in.

"'Intensive work to evacuate people is continuing. Many of them now will settle at lower altitudes for good. Families from the Svanetskiy Range are being allocated self-contained apartments and well-built small houses in Bolnisskiy, Marneulskiy, and Sagaredzhoyskiy rayons instead of local people. Housing in other rayons of the republic also has been made available. Many offers of "We could accommodate a family..." have been received from private citizens.

"'That, incidentally, is a story in itself,' Z.A. Chkheidze says further. 'We have received offers of help from Lipetsk doctors, Ukrainian mountaineers, Moscow families, and Leningrad students....The republic inhabitants have asked that an account be opened for payments into a relief fund. It is growing by the minute....Volunteers are ready to come -- some have already arrived -- to help with the reconstruction of housing, livestock units, schools, and hospitals in the Kolkhida lowlands. A difficult struggle to save lives was waged there. [paragraph continues]

"Now efforts are focused on bringing life back to normal as quickly as possible. The necessary materials and machinery have been delivered. We are rebuilding, above all the installations designed to prevent a repetition of the disaster, plus housing, communications, power lines, and roads, of course...

"'Resources are being allocated irrespective of departmental jurisdiction; we take them from wherever they are available. So far, we have relied on our own resources. Much work has also been carried out locally by a union government commission headed by V.S. Murakhovskiy. What the republic especially needs are material resources, machines, and capital investments. We will not have to wait long for the country's support. However, tremendous efforts still will be required from all of us...At present, our paramount concern is to save people, to free them from the grip of the snow!"

"The snow is 8 meters deep in some places. Hundreds of people already have been evacuated!

"Nonetheless, a map marked with red circles remains on the table of N. Khrikadze, commander of the Kutaisi pilots. The red cirles mark 10 rural soviets in the Svanetskiy Range which still are cut off from the world. Before taking off, the pilots study the map...

"The struggle goes on."

KAZAKHSTAN'S KUBASHEV AWARDED LABOR ORDER

PM111230 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the Award of the Order of the Labor Red Banner to Comrade S. Kubashev" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] For services to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and in connection with his 60th birthday, Comrade Sagidulla Kubashev, second secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, is awarded the Order of the Labor Red Banner.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium,

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Moscow, Kremlin, 9 February 1987.

UKRAINE CENTRAL COMMITTEE VIEWS ZAPOROZHYE THEFT

AU102021 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 3 Feb 87 p 3

[RATAU report: "Criminal Carelessness" -- passages between slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] /THE READERS KNOW ALREADY ABOUT THE BIG THEFT PERPETRATED LAST OCTOBER AT THE KOMMUNAR AUTOMOBILE PLANT IN ZAPORZHYE. MONEY SET ASIDE FOR THE ROUTINE PAYMENT OF WAGES AND SALARIES WAS STOLEN FROM THE ENTERPRISE'S PAY OFFICE. AS A RESULT OF EFFICIENT MEASURES TAKEN BY THE WORKERS OF THE USSR AND UKRAINIAN MINISTRIES OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AS WELL AS OF THE REPUBLIC'S PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE,THE CRIMINAL WAS ARRESTED AFTER A FEW DAYS AND THE STOLEN MONEY WAS PAID BACK TO THE ENTERPRISE./

This case has been examined in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee which, in the decision it adopted, assessed in a sharp and principled manner the irresponsible and careless attitude toward ensuring the safety of money at the "AvtoZAZ" association, called the attention of the republic's ministerial and departmental leaders to the cases of irresponsibility in ensuring the safety of money, and obligated them to take immediate steps to improve the security of pay offices and other material values at enterprises, institutions, and organizations. Investigative organs have been instructed to check into the theft of the money efficiently, and Zaporozhye Obkom has been requested to examine the causes of this extraordinary event and to evaluate the committed violations in adherence to principles.

In compliance with the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee's instructions, obkoms and oblispolkoms have examined the way money and other material values are kept in labor collectives, and have drawn up and are taking measures to protect socialist property in a reliable manner. Resulute struggle has been waged in the field against laxity and carelessness with regard to plunderers of the people's property.

The final verdict on the case of the theft at the Kommunar plant was passed at a field session of the court bench for criminal cases under the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Court. This unusual trial was held in the automobile plant's Palace of Culture. It was unusual because in the dock was not only a criminal dangerous to society, but also indifference, inactivity, and inadmissible carelessness on the part of a number of officials at the large enterprise.

The investigation and the court session brought to light many gross infringements of generally accepted norms for the safekeeping of money and other material values at the enterprise. Money received from the bank was kept in a rickety safe and was not protected.

/NEARLY 5 YEARS AGO, THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION FOR INTERDEPARTMENTAL SECURITY UNDER THE USSR MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS CHECKED UP ON THE KOMMUNAR AUTOMOBILE PLANT IN ZAPOROZHYE. AMONG OTHER SHORTCOMINGS, IT NOTED SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE SECURITY OF THE PAY OFFICE. TWO YEARS AFTER THAT, THE ADMINISTRATION FOR INTERDEPARTMENTAL SECURITY UNDER ZAPOROZHYE OBLISPOLKOM'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION AGAIN CALLED THE ATTENTION OF THE PLANT'S LEADERS TO THE VERY POOR SECURITY OF THE PAY OFFICE. IN ADDITION, THE FORMER CHIEF OF THE PLANT'S GUARD SECTON WROTE MORE THAN ONE MEMORANDUM ON THIS TOPIC. HOWEVER, THE CRIMINALLY CARELESS ATTITUDE TOWARD ENSURING THE SAFETY OF MONEY ON THE PART OF THE PLANT'S OFFICIALS WAS NOT ELIMINATED.

/WHAT WAS IT THAT HINDERED ELEMENTARY ORDER IN THE PAY OFFICE? WAS IT INDIFFERENCE? OR WERE PEOPLE ASHAMED TO GO DOWN TO SUCH "TRIVIALITIES" AS A RELIABLE LOCK ON THE SAFE AND THE SECURITY OF THE PAY OFFICE?

/THE RESULTS OF IRRESPONSIBILITY AND CARELESSNESS NEVER HAVE BEEN GOOD. THERE IS A FOLK SAYING: "THINGS THAT ARE NOT NAILED DOWN RUN THE RISK OF BEING LIFTED." THIS WAS PRECISELY THE CIRCUMSTANCE BY WHICH N.M. GORDIYENKO, COMMANDER OF THE PLANT'S PARAMILITARY GUARD SECTION, PROFITED. HAVING FREELY SWITCHED OFF THE ALARM SYSTEM, HE EASILY TOOK THE KEY IN THE GUARD ROOM, OPENED THE DOOR TO THE PAY OFFICE, AND THEN OPENED THE UNLOCKED SAFE WITH THE MONEY. BUT THE THIEF WAS SIMPLY PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO TAKE THE MONEY AWAY. HE "ONLY" TOOK A FEW BAGS CONTAINING R679,000 AND HID THEM IN A SHAFT OF THE PLANT'S HEATING SYSTEM./

The trial has shown convincingly that the extraordinary event at the Kommunar plant was not accidental. It was logical consequence of laxity, of the lack of strict discipline and order in the work of the enterprise's management apparatus itself. [paragraph continues]

The lesson taught at the Kommunar plant once again has clearly confirmed how opportune was the discussion at the January CPSU Central Committee plenum on the issues of restructuring cadre policy and of increasing the responsibility of functionaries at all levels for the matter at hand.

The Zaporozhye Obkom Bureau has punished severely those guilty of a criminally irresponsible attitude toward their duties. V.N. Makarov, deputy director general of the "Zaporozhye Automobile Plant" association; I.N. Sidko, chief of the finance section; and N.P. Romanov, deputy director for security, have been expelled from the CPSU ranks and dismissed from the posts held.

S.I. Kravchuk, director general of the association, and A.V. Burin, party committee secretary, have been severely reprimanded, and the reprimands have been entered in their files.

Also largely blame-worthy for the theft at the Kommunar plant were N.S. Totskiy and V.D. Makarchuk, leaders of the oblast and the city branch offices of the State Bank, who repeatedly violated the procedure on payments and failed to check into the observance of money safekeeping regulations. The former has been reprimanded severely and the reprimand entered in his file, and the latter has been expelled from the party. Both of them have been dismissed from their posts.

For the theft of a particularly large sum of state money, the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Court has sentenced Gordiyenko to the exceptional punishment of death by shooting. The sentence is final and unalterable. Ye.S. Kuzmina, the plant's former cashier, and I.N. Sidko, former chief of the finance section, each have been sentenced to 18 months in prison. They have also been deprived of the right to occupy posts connected with material responsibility for a period of 5 years.

The court also has adopted a decision concerning the USSR minister of the automotive industry and the manager of the Ukrainian republic-level office of the USSR State Bank. The decision calls the attention of those concerned to the shortcomings in the safekeeping of money and to the lack of appropriate control over the work of subordinate enterprises and institutions.

AUCCTU'S SHALAYEV INTERVIEWED ON NEW RULES

PM111311 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[Interview with AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev by SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA under the "Our Dialogue" rubric: "More Democracy and Responsibility"; date and place of interview not stated]

[Text] The draft rules of the USSR trade unions (with proposed changes and additions) have been published for widespread discussion. AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev answers SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's questions.

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] That gave rise to the need to prepare the draft rules of the USSR trade unions?

[Shalayev] For a start I want to remind you that the trade unions rules of the world's first socialist state go back to January 1918, to the time of the inaugural all-Russian congress of trade unions. Since then our country has lived through many important moments in its history. The aims and tasks of our trade union movement have changed accordingly and the rules have also undergone changes. I would say: The trade unions have kept pace with the times.

But, as the January plenum of the party's Central Committee emphasized, at a certain stage, policymaking and practical activity were dominated by conservative sentiments, inertia, the desire to brush aside everything which did not fit the familiar schemes, and the reluctance to resolve urgent socioeconomic questions. We cannot fail to see that the ideology and psychology of stagnation also pervaded the trade union movement. And now that the party is elaborating measures designed to accelerate our development and safeguard us from a repetition of our errors, the trade unions must join in this work immediately. One avenue is the improvement of the laws of trade union life and the rules.

Restructuring affects the Soviet trade unions in all its facets. The entire complex of topical problems relating to it will be discussed at the 27th USSR Trade Union Congress which will open in Moscow 24 February. The question of changes to the USSR Trade Unions rules will be submitted to the congress.

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] What is the thrust of the proposed changes?

[Shalayev] I should like to draw attention to several of the draft's provisions. Thus, the preamble to the rules stresses that the trade unions' activity is built on the basis of the persuasion of the masses, the development of their activity, initiative, and autonomy, broad openness, criticism, and self-criticism, especially criticism from below, and the unconditional observance of trade union democracy and the principle of collectivity. This principle is an inalienable element of democratic centralism, extraordinarily important for the work of all organizations and leading organs of the trade unions, as article 17 of the draft rules states.

It is planned to establish the periodicity of general meetings -- that supreme organ of the primary trade union organization where the voice of direct democracy is being heard increasingly loudly today. Its prestige is increasing. The general meeting, the draft states, will be deemed competent if over half the trade union organization members take part in it (article 28).

The same principle can be applied to sessions of trade union committees, councils, and presidiums. [paragraph continues]

But here it is perhaps important also to recall the demand for the creation of conditions under which the trade unions' rank and file members can take an active part in discussing the questions under examination and in working out solutions.

How to achieve this? There is interesting experience. Holding out of town sessions in oblasts and krays has become a tradition for the presidium of the RSFSR republican committee of the trade union of workers in education, the higher school, and scientific institutions. Sessions of the Kostroma Oblast trade unions council presidium took place recently at the "Motordetal" and "Tekstilmash" plants with the presence and participation of activists. And the Moscow City trade unions council presidium held a session on problems of supplying special clothing for working people at a supply organization. This is perhaps the consolidation of the link between elected trade unions and the masses, real openness with regard to their activity, and reliance on the broad trade union aktiv.

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] The trade union leader must be in the midst of the masses and work under daily control from below -- that is an imperious requirement of the times. Is this reflected in the new rules?

[Shalayev] I think there is no doubt that people capable of justifying the trust placed in them by their comrades should be elected to the trade union committee. The rules mentioned this before. But now the members of trade union organizations themselves must treat their elected representatives in an even more attentive land at the same time principled manner. More wholehearted, independent, and, frankly, authoritative people are needed today in the trade union committees as they are everywhere.

The trade union leader can achieve firm authority only if he is sensitive to people's needs and requests, is businesslike, principled, and self-critical, and resolutely eradicates bureaucracy from all areas of trade union life and work. And control from below enhances his sense of responsibility to the people who voted for him. That is why the members of trade union committees and councils, the draft proposes, will now have to report regularly to members of the trade unions at meetings and conferences (article 30). It is to this end, for collective control over the work of trade union cadres, that their assessment [attestatsiya] is being introduced.

One more fundamental innovation: At the demand of the primary trade union organization in which a trade union leader who has failed to justify the trust placed in him is registered, he can be removed from the committee or trade unions council (article 25). This is essentially nothing other than the right to trade unions' rank and file members to recall their representative from an elected organ.

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] Is is planned to introduce changes to the procedure for electing trade union organs?

[Shalayev] Yes, with a consideration for the opinion of the overwhelming majority of trade union members, an important change has been introduced to the draft of the new edition of the rules (I have in mind article 22). Now by a simple majority of votes the trade union meeting itself in the team, sector, shop, or production facility an in the primary organization without shop organizations will resolve the question of how exactly to hold elections -- by closed (secret) or open ballot.

In addition it is planned to increase to 2-3 years the term of office of trade union committees and shop committees of those organizations which unite 150 and more trade union members.

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's editorial mail contains many readers' questions about the extent to which the expansion of the labor collectives' powers and the consolidation of enterprises' economic autonomy will affect the traditional functions of the primary trade union organizations. Will self-administration not lead to the curtailment of trade union activity?

[Shalayev] In no circumstances. The experience of the trade unions' mass work and their powerful organizing role are more necessary then ever, whether it is a case of developing the people's socialist self-administration or resolving fundamental questions of state, economic, and cultural building.

This thesis is resolutely confirmed by lines from the draft USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association) submitted for nationwide discussion. Socialist self-administration, we read in it, is exercised through the participation of the entire collective and its public organizations in the elaboration of the most important decisions and in the monitoring of their execution, in leaders' appointment by election and in one-man leadership in the management of the enterprise (article 6 point 1). The socioeconomic decisions affecting the enterprise's activity are elaborated and taken by the leader with the participation of the labor collective and the public organizations operating in it in accordance with their rules and with legislation (article 6 point 2). As we can see, tremendous responsibility is placed in the trade union organization and its elected organ -- the trade union committee.

It is about this responsibility that we tried to speak as precisely as possible in the new edition of the rules, especially article 55.

In turn the trade union committee, article 58 states, represents and defends the interests of workers and employees in the field of production, labor, daily life, and culture. Independently, together with the labor collective council, administration, and elected organs of other public organizations, the trade union committee wields the labor collective's powers stipulated by legislation and takes part in the implementation of enterprises' rights. The first experience of the joint harmonious work of councils and trade union committees of the "Avtovaz," "Kriotekhnika" all-union science and production association, the Perm telephone plant, and the Sorsk molybdenum combine shows that the pooling of efforts has considerably increased the effectiveness of the solution of many production and social questions. I was convinced of this yet again when I attended a session of the "Mosoblselstroy" No. 18 trust economic council.

It is in the labor collectives -- the central link in restructuring -- that the trade unions must fully reveal their potential and assess anew their potential and rights, thus increasing their contribution to the nationwide business of socioeconomic acceleration.

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA] What demands do the new rules make on the trade union member?

[Shalayev] Trade unions in our country have enormous rights. But we are all constantly guided by Lenin's behest -- the trade unions should have no rights without duties. This applies to the organization as a whole, to all its links, and to each trade union member.

His rights, duties, and responsibility are one. Thus, the right to take an active part in the administration of the enterprise and state and public affairs (article 2) is inseparable from the obligation to work honestly and conscientiously and to make a specific contribution to the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development (article 3). [paragraph continues]

The right to criticize shortcomings in work and to make proposals on the improvement of the activity of trade union and economic organs, soviet and (this is a new element) state institutions is inseparable from the duty personally also to observe strictly state, production, and labor discipline, and to consolidate organization and order in production.

The following new provision of the rules also enhances responsibility -- the trade union organization hears reports from trade union members on their fulfillment of their statutory obligations and trade union assignments. For the first time the severe reprimand as a means of trade union punishment is introduced for nonfulfillment of statutory obligations.

Asserting true democracy and efficiency, accelerating restructuring in the work of all trade union organizations and organs, enhancing the activeness of each trade union member and his state interest in the successes of our common cause -- that is the aim of all changes and additions.

I should like to stress once again that the draft rules of the USSR trade unions have absorbed the opinions of many thousands of people and were created on the basis of broad democratic principles, were discussed comprehensively and, as we can see, are now being attentively studied by the public. Proposals and additions are continuing to come in. I take this opportunity to address SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA readers -- the members of trade union organizations operating in all rayons of the republic, including the most remote. We are interested in how carefully you are studying the draft rules, what is generating discussion, and whether the higher ranking trade union committee is attentive toward your opinions and proposals. In brief -- be more active in joining in discussion, because very little time remains to the opening of the forum which is to elaborate the trade unions' specific tasks in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. We await your proposals.

TSENTROSOYUZ'S YASHIN ON NEW-STYLE COOPERATIVES

PM121427 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 Feb 87 p 1

[Interview with A. Yashin, first deputy chairman of the Tsentrosoyuz Board, by own correspondent S. Mostovshchikov under the "The Weekend Interview" rubric: "Cooperatives: Moves in Restructuring" -- first paragraph is TRUD introduction; date and place of interview unspecified]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Politburo has approved measures to set up cooperatives in the country in the areas of consumer goods production, public catering, and consumer services. A large network of various cooperatives will appear as part of the Tsentrosoyuz system. What will they be like? It is now possible to make certain forecasts, because dozens of cooperatives have already been set up as part of the Tsentrosoyuz since the beginning of the year and are beginning to take their first steps as part of the new management system. TRUD correspondent S. Mostovshchikov talks about this with A. Yashin, first deputy chairman of the Tsentrosoyuz Board.

[Mostovshchikov] Aleksey Grigoryevich, the Tsentrosoyuz has an enoumous number of enterprises, shops, stores, and restaurants which are called cooperatives. Why then was it necessary for the Tsentrosoyuz to begin setting up a new type of cooperative as part of its system back at the end of last year?

[Yashin] Our numerous enterprises and stores, you see, are called cooperatives mainly out of convention. [paragraph continues]

There is little of the cooperative about them: the procurement of raw materials, range of output and goods, and in addition, perhaps, the prices. The rest, however, has virtually nothing in common with real cooperatives: The workers receive a fixed salary and their work is organized on the same pattern as in similar state enterprises.

The Tsentrosoyuz therefore adopted resolutions last year to set up by way of an experiment "pilot" cooperatives whose activity would be based on principles of genuine financial autonomy, self-management, self-financing, and self-capitalization. We have proposed setting up not only completely new cooperatives but also switching our laggard enterprises over to the other management principle.

There are already around 30 new cooperatives operating in the country now. And they will increase in number. Let's be frank, the shortage of consumer goods has by no means been solved and the services offered the population are quite often primitive and of low standard. But the new cooperatives are designed to be flexible and highly responsive to demand. Unfortunately, there are not many of them as yet and the results of their activity are barely noticeable. But the CPSU Central Committee Politburo's decision will make it possible to sharply increase the number of collectives.

[Mostovshchikov] Tell us something about the most interesting cooperatives.

[Yashin] Many newspapers have already reported on the cooperative cafe on Moscow's Kropotkinskaya Street. But that is by no means all. For example, a cooperative producing labels for light industry from production waste has begun operating in Domodedovo. The innovation has taken particular hold in Armenia. Cooperatives have been set up there which produce nonalcoholic drinks, confectionery, pastrami, and garlic sausage. In Masisskiy Rayon they are growing mushrooms and vegetables and in the settlement of Nork they are raising quails and sending their eggs to stores. There are also cooperatives engaged in gathering sea buckthorn and producing an oil and other medicinal preparations from it by a technique approved by the Ministry of Health...

[Mostovshchikov] This is probably the right time to ask a question which perturbs many people: Who can join a cooperative?

[Yashin] Under existing provisions cooperatives are allowed to recruit extra labor, that is, people not engaged in social production -- pensioners, housewives, or students wishing to earn a little extra during their time free from studies. That, by the way, represents a large group of the population, so there will be enough applicants, I think.

[Mostovshchikov] Do you mean that the work force in the cooperatives already set up as part of the Tsentrosyuz system is made up just of pensioners, housewives, and students?

[Yashin] No, that is not altogether true. The fact is that the problem of membership is very difficult. We encountered hitches back when our experimental cooperatives were beginning to appear. In many cases they needed specialists, whose jobs cannot always be performed by pensioners, housewives, or students. What is to be done? Perhaps it would be possible for a cooperative to "contract" a specialist, provided, that is, he works there only during time left free from his main job by a dual-job arrangement or labor agreement. Let me say straightaway that this is a completely unjustified solution. A person would be torn between two jobs and, moreover, he would not in the final analysis be a member of the cooperative. [paragraph continues]

The upshot of this would be a basic lack of interest in the results of common labor... Therefore many of our experimental cooperatives have people working for them who have exchanged their main job for that of a member of the cooperative.

In my view, the question of cooperative membership should be approached more thoughtfully in future and should be resolved in a more flexible way.

[Mostovshchikov] Cooperative members are quite often described as shareholders. This is natural since, when they join together in the cooperative, people make a special (share) contribution, invest their money in the common work and thereby obtain the right to a share in the profits. What is the size of the share contribution laid down in the new type of cooperative?

[Yashin] I think that cooperative members must decide on their own whether a share contribution is necessary or not. Then they establish its size and determine its advisability and also the conditions under which the share will be returned to those who leave the cooperative.

[Mostovshchikov] Are there difficulties in switching your laggard and low-profitability cooperative enterprises in the local industry and public catering areas over to a genuinely cooperative basis?

[Yashin] Yes, there are always problems. Do we dismiss our present workers and tell them: "That's enough, guys, you are now going to have a new type of cooperative"? You can, of course, tell them to join together in the same shop to be run according to the new economic principle, but if just one worker is opposed, that's an end to it.

...I fear that I have not listed all the problems. It is an innovation and problems are, of course, inevitable. I want them, of course, to decrease, particularly those that are artificially invented.

ALIYEV, OTHERS ATTEND RAILROAD UNION CONGRESS

PM281551 Moscow TRUD in Russian 20 Jan 87 p 2

[V. Golovachev report: "More Militancy and Effectiveness; Railroad and Transport Construction Workers Union Congress"]

[Text] Let us note straightaway that the talk at the congress chiefly concerned the most urgent problems -- both production and social. In his report I.A. Shinkevich, chairman of the union Central Committee, objectively analyzed the results of the work of the railroad and transport construction workers. A great deal has been accomplished. The transport construction workers have fulfilled the set volumes of construction and installation work. During the years of the 11th 5-Year Plan a large amount of above-plan national economic freight was carried on rail transport.

Last year too rail workers stepped up their pace during the first 11 months and achieved previously unattainable targets. The disruptions started in December with the onset of the cold weather and snowstorms. In many rayons railroads were closed and dozens of "abandoned" trains (that is, trains without locomotives) froze up. The national economy was in a difficult situation. And yet the rail workers completed the annual freight shipments plan ahead of schedule and dispatched 81 million metric tons of freight over and above the plan.

The figures are good but it is hard for the uninitiated to understand the situation. The plan was fulfilled ahead of schedule but many enterprises did not receive the products they needed from the rail workers. Other plants, on the other hand, lacking rail cars, have been unable to dispatch their goods to their customers. More often than not it is the people who dispatch and receive the freight who are to blame, but rail workers are also guilty of many failings. In assessing the work of rail workers we should probably take into account not only the total volume of shipments but also another important fact: Did the customers receive the goods they needed or not?

Responsibility for this lies first and foremost with economic leaders. What about trade union organizations -- can they stand aloof? Of course not. The selection of criteria, the orientation of socialist competition, and the creation of an atmosphere of high exactingness and responsibility for assignments should all promote the organization of a smooth-running transportation system. Yet, as the main speaker noted, "it did not prove possible to ensure that socialist competition was a powerful lever for improving creative activeness, educating working people, and mobilizing them to seek out existing reserves, introduce scientific and technical achievements, and improve work quality. A number of union committees and economic leaders lacked specific ideas in organizing competition, real organizational work, and a desire to find ways and means to produce tangible returns from work."

This is a principled and accurate assessment. And this most important topic was continually raised during the debates. The speakers analyzed the reasons hindering the development of competition, sharply criticized the formalism which has still not been eradicated either locally or in the central apparatus, and spoke frankly about acute problems.

Many acute facts were cited at the congress -- for instance, the lack of elementary conditions for train drivers' relaxation, the violation of labor legislation, the shortcomings in ensuring traffic safety, and industrial injuries -- but when it came to analyzing matters and drawing conclusions, one heard yet again the phrases: "step up attention," "change attitudes," and so forth. But how is attention to be stepped up? What specifically could the union have done that it did not do? What possibilities, for instance, were available to the rail workers' rayon and track union committees to really influence the course of events and change the situation? How could they put into practice the rights available to them? Regrettably, these questions were not always answered.

There is, for instance, a most acute problem in the sector -- the housing problem. Some 500,000 rail workers' families need housing. Yet over the last few years the Ministry of Railways has failed to assimilate over R120 million for these purposes. As a result rail workers have failed to receive 204,000 square meters of housing.

What has the union Central Committee done to rectify the situation? Did it insist on including social, cultural, and leisure facilities in complexes scheduled for completion or on actively disseminating the initiative of working people at the Volga Motor Vehicle Plant of working 4 days on such projects? It mainly listened to explanations...

Many speakers raised topical questions of concern to their collectives. Production and working and leisure conditions were mentioned by nearly everyone, but less attention was devoted to the style, forms, and methods of the union committees' work. This omission was partly rectified by D.R. Yepifanov, engineer at the Yaroslavl-Glavnyy Locomotive Depot and winner of the Soviet Trade Union Prize:

"Some 150-180,000 hours of overtime are worked in our depot every year, and the figure is not falling; the number of violations of working practices runs into the thousands and absenteeism is falling only slowly. But when the union committee examines these questions, it always 'puts itself in the position' of the depot leadership, expresses the hope that shirkers will be more mature, and sometimes even defends shoddy workmen and those who break the rules. So far I have seen no tangible restructuring in the depot, rayon, and track union committees at any rate.

"Or take socialist competition. We summed up the results, at best notices were stuck on the machine tools, but there was no painstaking work to generalize the results of the best workers or to profoundly analyze the reasons for lags. At the same time 10 percent of the depot engineers are wasting electricity."

V.S. Peskovets, chairman of the rail workers' rayon union committee at the Svobodnenskiy Division of the Transcaucasian Railroad, spoke of the recently increased flow of paper -- various recommendations and reports which have taken up a great deal of time. This subject was continued by A.V. Chernomae, chairman of the rail workers' track union committee at the Donetsk Railroad, who proposed cutting the number of various plans and programs, which duplicate each other to a considerable extent.

"Communications between the union Central Committee and local union committees in our region are inadequate," V.D. Ivanchuk, union committee chairman at the "Tselintransstroy" Trust, stressed in his speech. "Over the last 8 years we have seen workers from the union Central Committee apparatus in our trust only once -- at the report and election union conference -- and nobody has visited our primary union organizations at all. Since the track rail workers union committee was organized in 1977 the leaders of many departments at the union Central Committee have never visited the Tselinnaya Railroad or transport construction trusts even once."

F.K. Choporov, engineer at the Bataysk Locomotive Depot, spoke very precisely about the need to improve the effectiveness of work. "Recently," he stressed, "questions of overtime have been discussed at sessions of the Ministry of Railways Collegium and the union Central Committee Presidium, and a whole series of fine resolutions and orders have been issued on the subject. But I will state bluntly that these directives from the Ministry of Railways and the union Central Committee have produced no noticeable improvement in the organization of locomotive teams' labor and leisure, particularly at our depot. Is it not time for the Ministry of Railways leadership and the union Central Committee to move from words to deeds?"

In assessing the work of the congress as a whole it must be said that it produced detailed and self-critical discussions about the tasks facing railroad and transport construction workers in the current 5-year plan. The congress made it possible to define more precisely the main areas where more effort is needed, and revealed many problems which must be solved urgently. It is important now to tackle these problems in earnest and strive to really improve the production and social spheres and to thoroughly develop working people's initiative and creative activeness.

Taking part in the congress' work were G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.S. Pasternak, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Transport and Communications Department; AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev, AUCCTU Secretary I.Ye. Klochkov, and the leaders of ministries and departments.

A plenum of the new union Central Committee was held. I.A. Shinkevich was reelected chairman of the union Central Committee.

OIL, GAS TU CONGRESS ENDS; SEDENKO ELECTED

PM051229 Moscow TRUD in Russian 30 Jan 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Working in the New Way"]

[Text] the trade union congress of oil and gas industry workers came to a close yesterday in Moscow. Delegates discussed the tasks facing their trade union, outlined ways to restructure the work of trade union organizations in light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, and adopted a resolution on partial amendments and addenda to the trade union statute.

Taking part in the congress work were: L.M. Kuznetsov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Heavy Industry and Power Engineering Department; B.Ye. Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; K. Turysov, AUCCTU secretary; V.A. Dinkov, USSR minister of the petroleum industry; V.S. Chernomyrdin, USSR minister of the gas industry; and V.G. Chirskov, USSR minister of construction of petroleum and gas industry enterprises.

The congress elected the trade union's new Central Committee and Auditing Commission and delegates to the country's 18th Trade Union Congress.

A plenum of the trade union's new Central Committee was held. V.T. Sedenko was elected chairman of the trade union Central Committee.

RSFSR CSA ISSUES REPORT ON AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY

LD022259 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS -- The whole of the increment of industrial and agricultural output in the Russian Federation has been achieved through the growth of labour productivity. This has been stated in a report of the Central Statistical Board of the Russian Federation, the biggest of the union republics of the USSR, on the results of the fulfillment of the state plan of the economic and social development of the Russian Federation in 1986.

The Central Statistical Board of the Russian Federation reports that the fixed assets worth 114 billion roubles were put into service. Some 100 new state industrial enterprises were put into operation.

The raising of wages of public education workers was completed in all the regions of the republic.

The living conditions of 5.9 million people were improved.

During the past year the population of the republic increased by some 1.2 million. The increment was the biggest in the past 20 years. On January 1, 1987, the population of the Russian Federation stood at 145.3 million.

LATE JANUARY WEATHER, CROP STATUS REVIEWED

PM061449 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Feb 87 p 1

[Agrometeorologist A. Grishina report: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] In the last 10 days of January the weather was frosty over the majority of the USSR's European territory. At the beginning of February it became considerably milder on the USSR's European territory, snow fell in many regions, and there were blizzards in places.

The wintering of winter grain crops and perennial sown grasses is proceeding well. They are concealed beneath a snow cover predominantly 25-45 cm deep, but deeper in places. The minimum soil temperature at tillering node depth for winter crops and grasses is keeping between minus 6 and minus 10 degrees, and down to minus 12 degrees in places in the Ukraine.

There is still a deep snow cover over the majority of the Urals Region (50-65 cm deep, and more than 80 cm in the south of the Bashkir ASSR). As a result of the hard frosts that have been observed for a long time, the minimum soil temperature at tillering node depth for winter crops has fallen and is predominantly between minus 4 and minus 6 degrees. Plant rotting processes have slowed down.

In the Transcaucasian republics the weather was warm of most for the 10-day period. The air temperature was 3-5 degrees, and in Armenia 5-8 degrees, above the perennial average. Heavy rain fell in the majority of regions, with snowfalls in mountainous regions. In Georgia the amount of precipitation during the 10-day period totaled 120-230 mm. The temperature dropped at the end of the 10-day period.

It is mild in the farming regions of Siberia and over the majority of Kazakhstan's territory. The average air temperature for the 10-day period was 4-8 degrees above the perennial average. The maximum air temperature during the daytime rose above freezing point and reached 1-5 degrees, and 6-13 degrees in the south of Altay Kray and of Kazakhstan. However, hard frosts were noted on individual nights. In the majority of regions the soil was frozen to a depth of 90-150 cm. Wintering of winter rye and perennial sown grasses is proceeding well. Over most of the territory the snow cover was 25-40 cm deep; the minimum soil temperature at tillering node depth stayed between minus 8 and minus 10 degrees. In the Far East the weather was milder than usual. The discrepancy in the average air temperature during the 10-day period was 2-4 degrees.

In the Central Asian republics the cold weather was followed by a significant rise in temperature. During the day the air warmed up to 13-25 degrees. The precipitation in the majority of regions was insignificant. Winter grain crops were growing during most of the 10-day period.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 5-7 FEBRUARY NOTED

LD090335 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 5-7 February. GMT times of broadcasts are given in brackets at the end of each item.

5 February

It is a matter of days before lucerne sowing starts in Uzbekistan. However, by no means all farms have laid up lucerne seeds. In Nukus Rayon, for instance, less than 10 percent of the task for cleaning lucerne seeds has been fulfilled. In Dzhizak Oblast, out of the 329 tonnes of seed checked only 48 tonnes were accepted as certified seeds. The mistakes made in 1986 are being repeated. In that year many virgin land farms received only half the planned harvest because of poor seed quality. The situation in Dagestan is different. To date over 6,500 tonnes of lucerne seeds have been prepared in this republic, and all sowing material for the fodder field is assessed as being first-class. (0500)

6 February

Tselinograd Oblast's crop farmers have completed the preparation of seeds for spring sowing. Some 90 percent of them are in accordance with the first and second class seed standard. Special attention at the oblast's farms has been devoted to sowing material for fields on which an intensive technology is used. For these fields locally bred high-yield wheat varieties have been selected. As our correspondent reports, approximately 1 million hectares of crops will be cultivated in accordance with an intensive technology. Last year 1.5 times more grain was obtained from such fields than from the ones where ordinary technology was used. (0304)

In SELSKAYA ZHIZN Comrade Posibeyev, first secretary of the Mari Obkom, writes that precisely by using team contracting the ASSR has obtained from each hectare over 22.5 quintals of grain crops and pulses in 1986. At present over 90 percent of arable land in the ASSR has been assigned to contracting sub-units. (0600)

An alarming report arrived today from our correspondent in Kiev. Farms of the Ukraine, he reports, especially in the southern oblasts are faced with a big job on fields occupied by winter crops. Part of them will need to be resown. This requires an additional 234,000 tonnes of seeds. They are available in state resources, but the union state agro-industrial committee is being slow in allocating them and these seeds still need to be worked on to bring them into sowing condition. (1400)

7 February

Altay Kray's agro-industrial committee has worked out a plan for increasing the kray's fodder growing area from 160,000 hectares to 181,000 hectares this year. One half of the additional land will be irrigated by kolkhozes and state sovkhozes farms' own efforts. (1200)

GRACHEV VIEWS PROBLEMS IN FARM EQUIPMENT REPAIR

PM091017 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Feb 87 p 1

[Yu. Grachev "Agricultural Review": "From Repair to Repair"]

[Excerpts] Kolkhoz and sovkhoz fields will soon resound to the roar of tractor, truck, and combine engines. And the quality of the preparation and repair of machinery will largely decide success.

But what is alarming and troubling today is this. When you look through Central Statistical Administration reports, you feel satisfied: Equipment is being repaired almost everywhere faster than last year. However, this feeling of elation quickly vanishes as soon as you look at the results of checks on the quality of repairs to the equipment. In many places it does not stand up to criticism. The increased pace still frequently conceals negligence and an irresponsible attitude by rural repair services and their leaders to their obligations. Slipshod work is the result of such an attitude.

Here is an example. Gostekhnadzor [expansion unknown; perhaps State Technical Inspectorate] organs checked 893 tractors on Omsk Oblast farms. More than 160 of them had various defects and deficiencies. Of the 586 combines checked, 128 were rejected. Ten percent of the plows, seed drills, and cultivators out of the 3,000 prepared for work and accepted by local commissions had to be returned to the workshops. Similar instances were exposed as a result of inspectors' checking trips to kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Moldavia and in Kustanay, Nikolayev, Zhitomir, Kuybyshev, and other oblasts and republics.

What can account for these hiccups in the seemingly well oiled mechanism of the agro-industrial complex' repair system? For the repair base of agriculture was strengthened considerably as a result of the reorganization of the engineering and technical service not so long ago. Combined under one roof, kolkhoz and sovkhoz workshops and repair enterprises of the former Selkhoztekhnika [Association for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture] were enabled to work hand in hand. They have one task -- to prepare all equipment for work in good time and to a high standard; and one aim -- to ensure technical readiness for spring sowing and for harvesting.

But the trouble is that the combining beneath one roof of two different engineering services with weak economic links between each other has in many instances proved a purely formal act. The only thing to change was the name: A rayon repair and technical enterprise appeared instead of Selkhoztekhnika. But the essence remained almost the same. Repair enterprises have their own plans for restoring machinery and their own concerns, which are still very poorly coordinated with the true concerns of kolkhoz and sovkhoz machine operators. Departmentalism prevails in the activities of these collectives. It is also willy-nilly encouraged by the fact that even in the central apparatus of the State Agro-Industrial Committee there are two different repair services subordinate to different subsections. [passage omitted]

But is poor monitoring of engineering services' activities the only reason for the poor quality of the preparation and repair of the machinery and tractor pool? I think not. Bad labor organization in workshops and the lack of proper conditions for productive work by repair workers also have an impact.

Take Volgograd Oblast, for example, whose farms possess a huge pool of agricultural equipment. Ever since the fall there have been delays over drawing up machinery repair plans and schedules in many rayons, including Surovikinskiy, Gorodishchenskiy, Ilovlinskiy, and a number of other rayons. The farm workshops had not been prepared in good time for work under cold winter conditions. Nor had concern been shown there to fully supply repair links and teams with the necessary machine tools and technological repair equipment, although they were at bases of the oblast agro-industrial committee. They were let down by the sluggishness of the suppliers, who were in no great hurry to sell kolkhozes and sovkhozes very scarce vises, anvils, electric welding tables, washers, and other mechanisms that were gathering dust on warehouse shelves in the oblast center. Farms in the Kirghiz SSR's Alamedinskiy Rayon (M.O. Osmanaliyev is chairman of the Rayon Agro-Industrial Association Council) also began repairing agricultural equipment in a disorganized manner, which adversely affected the quality of its preparation. [paragraph continues]

This applies particularly to machinery and implements used there in intensive techniques for the cultivation of agricultural crops. Thus, more than half of the 370 plows, seed drills, and cultivators checked by Gostekhnadzor inspectors were rejected, that is, they contained numerous defects and deficiencies after repair.

Rural workers are also being let down by the collective of the country's well known Frunze Experimental Repair Plant in the agro-industrial complex system (Plant Director F.A. Partuleyev). Many tractor and combine engines still come off its production line containing a goodly share of slipshod work. For this reason tractors and combines quickly go out of commission. But farms are afraid to spoil relations with repair workers and are in no hurry to bring economic and court sanctions to bear on the enterprise collective. This all-forgiveness only encourages slipshod workers. And it in no way accords with the new relations which are now being established between farmers and rural engineering and technical services as a result of restructuring.

PAPER REVIEWS RSFSR SEED STOCK SITUATION

PM061459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[RSFSR Gosagroprom (State Agro-Industrial Committee) commentary under the rubric "Commenting on Figures": "For the Spring Fields"]

[Text] By 1 February 91 percent of grain crop seeds were ready for spring sowing on RSFSR kolkhozes and sovkhozes; 74 percent of the seeds were Class I and II seeds, 17 percent were Class III seeds, and more than 8 percent were nongrade seeds.

Is this good or bad? Compared with last year's figures, there is some improvement. The steps taken by agro-industrial committees and associations at local level have undoubtedly affected the results of this work. The material base of farms has been consolidated and monitoring of the quality and preparation of seeds has been intensified.

However, as a whole, bearing in mind current demands, the situation relating to seed preparation cannot be regarded as satisfactory.

Take Amur Oblast, for instance. There is a rule according to which seeds should have been checked by 1 December. This work virtually ground to a halt in the oblast. In December of last year only 76 percent of seeds had been checked in the oblast and kolkhoz and sovkhoz seed stocks contained more than 60 percent of grain which did not meet the germination requirements.

The seed stock on many farms in Vologda Oblast is of a poor quality. In the complex conditions of last year's harvest by no means all farms were able to organize timely drying of grain and laying in of quality seeds. As a result, more than half the seed stock in the oblast is not ready for sowing, 8 percent of the seeds have not been cleaned of weeds, and 43 percent have a low germination capacity.

The quality of seeds on farms in Ivanov, Kostroma, Kirov, Kurgan, Perm, and Novosibirsk Oblasts is considerably lower than last year. Unquestionably the harsh frosts have delayed this work. It is therefore necessary to work all the more energetically now in order to catch up. Farms in Chelyabinsk Oblast have not obtained a single ton of grain from break-baking enterprises despite the permission that they may exchange grain. [paragraph continues]

The situation in Ryazan Oblast is the same. In other regions exchange operations are being held up through the fault of grain reception enterprises. In Tula Oblast at then end of Decmeber these enterprises still held 2,000 metric tons of ungraded spring crop grain. In Tyumen Oblast, the Buryat ASSR, and Kemerovo Oblast such seeds accounted for more than 60 percent of the stock.

Time does not stand still. It is necessary to take all the measures possible to speed up seed preparation. Special attention must be paid to the quality of seeds intended for cultivation using intensive techniques. The RSFSR Gosagroprom recommends that all seeds be checked for growth capacity and that this be done twice, now and before sowing.

PROGRESS IN SPRING SOWING PREPARATIONS REVIEWED

LD120317 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 11 Feb 87

[Aleksandr Ruvinskiy commentary: 'Greetings to spring']

[Summary] Farms in Central Asia and Azerbaijan are now sowing early spring crops. Winter crops there are being topdressed. The latter work is also in hand in Moldavia and the Ukraine. Snow retention work is being done extensively even in areas where this method is not usually employed owing to the absence of snow cover.

"One of the main elements involved in preparing for spring is the presence of good quality seeds. In all around 18.5 million tonnes of seeds for spring grain crops have been prepared in the country. That fully covers the requirements for the spring sowing, but the seeds are distributed rather unevenly and indeed their quality leaves something to be desired. As yet there are few good quality seeds in the Urals and Western Siberia where work to finish them and where necessary exchange for them from state resources is slow. There are few first and second class seeds in Kirghizia, Tajikistan, Armenia, and Turkmenia while in Uzbekistan scarecely more than half of the total number of seeds falls into these categories. What is more the picture is the same there every year. There has been no change for the better on the eve of this year's sowing either, but to be sure these republics are to expand the scale on which intensive technologies are introduced and for that only first class seeds are required." A.most all seeds in the Urkaine are first class and there has been a great improvement in work on seed preparation in Belorussia as well as Belgorod, Ulyanovsk, and Orenburg Oblasts not to mention Stavropolye.

"I would like to make special mention of flax and buckwheat seeds. Production of flax in many non-Chernozem Zone oblasts has a considerable influence on the economy of farms but nonetheless in Pskov and Yaroslavl, and Vologda Oblasts less than one fifth of seeds can be said to be prepared. There remains a lot to be done with buckwheat. In all for the non-Chernozem Zone one third of seeds for this crop are not up to sowing standards."

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE OPENS

LD111353 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] An All-Union conference on philosophical and social problems of science and technology opened in Moscow today. Our correspondent interviewed one of those taking part, Academician Petr Nikolayevich Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

[Begin Fedoseyev recording] Acceleration in socio-economic development is unthinkable without comprehensive scientific-technical progress. On the other hand, scientific-technical progress is not something developing eternally in isolation. Scientific-technical progress requires it be founded on and secured by socio-economic factors, and that is why the dialectic, the interrelationship between socio-economic development and scientific-technical progress is the focus of attention at this conference. This, however, is one of those problems requiring close interaction between natural and social sciences.

As was underlined at the January plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, one important element in the restructuring taking place in this country is a turn toward greater emphasis on science as a partner to businesslike practice. Therefore, the job of the conference is to map out a path to greater integration among all sciences concerning the natural world, society and man. This is no simple matter. Complications have occurred in the past in integrating various branches of knowledge. Philosophers and social scientists have not always come to grips at the right time with the latest trends in scientific-technical progress. This, to some extent, has operated as a brake on joint work and cohesive action among scientists in various specialist disciplines in finding solutions to complex problems.

Yet, in the current situation, the majority of the vital problems are complex ones. The fact is the acceleration of socio-economic development and scientific-technical progress requires joint action among physicists and chemists, biologists and medical doctors, economists and sociologists, lawyers and demographers, and so forth. So, integration of knowledge brings in the power of scientific-technical progress to the solution of complex problems. [end recording]

MOSCOW PREVIEWS SOVIET-FRENCH SPACE MISSION

LD060953 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 5 Feb 87

[From the "Science and Engineering" program; unidentified presenter introduces science correspondent Boris Belitskiy]

[Excerpts] Preparations are in progress at the Soviet cosmonaut training center for several international oribital flights. They will involve crew members from Syria, France and Bulgaria. At the end of next year, one of two Frenchmen, Jean-Loup Chretien or Michel Tognini, is to join Soviet cosmonauts in a second Soviet-French mission. Science correspondent Boris Belitskiy reports: [passage omitted] During the second joint mission, which is to last for 30 days, it's proposed to continue studying the cardiovascular system, this time with an improved version of the (?echograph) instrument. This calls for a more detailed investigation of the impact of zero gravity on the interaction of the locomotion system and the sense organs, especially eyesight.

During their first few days in orbit spacemen experience disturbances in the coordination of their movements and physicians are looking for ways of helping them to cope with this as quickly as possible.

New instruments are also to be used in radiobiological investigations. Then there are to be psychophysiological studies on how the crew members sleep, and of the changes in their sleep and wakefulness cycle. As space flights become longer physicians are also faced with growing problems connected with changes in the metabolic processes in the body, notably the calcium metabolism. The body loses calcium in space, and this can reduce its content in bone tissues.

However, the prolonged flights made by Soviet cosmonauts in recent years show that preventive methods devised by Soviet specialists, and particularly physical exercises, go some way toward preventing these changes. But since the duration of flights is sure to increase even more, the physicians feel they must have a full picture of all the changes that take place in metabolic processes and to understand their nature, since it's only on this basis that more effective preventive measures can be devised. In this context much is expected of planned studies of the mineral contents of bone tissues and of the investigation of the phosphorous and calcium metabolism and the hormone systems regulating it.

In short, the research program of the coming Soviet-French space flight is a very extensive one. In the meantime the two Frenchmen have a period of intensive training before them. It will include training in a zero gravity simulation pool, since it's planned that the crew members will work in raw space outside the Mir orbital station too.

INTERSPUTNIK MEMBERSHIP TO INCLUDE GHANA

AB051035 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The secretary for information, Kofi Totobi-Quakyi, has declared Ghana's intention to become a member of Intersputnik, the Moscow-based space communications organization. Mr Totobi-Quakyi made this known in Moscow at a meeting with the director general of Intersputnik, Spartak Kurilov, as part of a 10-day official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Journalists. He also declared Ghana's preparedness to become a service center for the West African subregion.

Mr Totobi-Quakyi announced that initial feasibility studies by technicians at the Nfuntuse earth satellite station indicate that signals from Intersputnik can be picked on 14 degrees. He explained that Ghana's decision to join Intersputnik, which now embraces some 14 countries, is based not only on technical grounds, but on financial and political reasons.

Welcoming the secretary, Mr Kurilov explained that membership of Intersputnik is based purely on a principle of equality and one-member-one-vote basis. He said Intersputnik tariffs are minimal, adding that they are just about one-eighth of what is charged by other similar organizations. Mr Kurilov agreed with Mr Totobi-Quakyi that the information imbalance in the world must be corrected.

Mr Totobi-Quakyi also held discussions with representatives of TASS and NOVOSTI news agencies, the newspaper PRAVDA, the State Committee for Radio and Television, and the host, the Union of Soviet Journalists. The discussions centered on training for Ghanian journalists as well as electronic technicians.

CSSR PARTICIPATES IN 'PHOBOS' SATELLITE RESEARCH

LD121145 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0820 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] Prague, 12 Feb (TASS) -- Czechoslovak scientists will participate actively in the preparations for and implementation of the space program to carry out research on the Mars satellite "Phobos." The aim of this international expedition is to study the nature of small space bodies. The experiment, in which numerous states as well as the European Space Agency will take part, will start in June next year. The Soviet carrier rockets will launch probes into Space. It is planned to carry out a number of scientific research projects with the aid of the probes while they are on their way to "Phobos." It will take 7 months for the probes to get close to Mars. Subsequently, they will orbit around Phobos and observations will be continued.

Out of the 20 instruments that it is planned to install in the probes, 5 will be created by Czechoslovak scientists and experts. Scientific equipment for solar research is under development in collaboration with the Soviet scientists. Work to make an X-ray telescope, a coronograph, the amplifier for a plasma analyzer, and other instruments is underway in CSSR laboratories and design centers. In total, some 20 Czechoslovak scientific research collectives, laboratories, and organizations are taking part in the preparation of the "Phobos" research program.

BRIEFS

NEW METEOROLOGICAL SHIP -- A new meteorological ship Vadim Popov has arrived in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy from the Baltic. The ship is equipped with the most modern navigation instruments and communication equipment. It communicates with earth satellites and the operation of its communications system is based on electronics and automation. [Summary] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 0930 GMT 3 Feb 87 OW]

MARSHAL KURKOTKIN ATTENDS FLEET KOMSOMOL CONFERENCE

PM121439 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

[Own correspondent Captain 3d Class V. Pasyakin report under the general heading "Present-day Positions"]

[Text] The participants in a Red Banner Black Sea Fleet Komsomol conference discussed the progress of the work to restructure Komsomol organizations frankly, in a businesslike manner, and from present-day positions.

The report by Rear Admiral V. Nekrasov, member of the Fleet Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate, and the speeches by Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services; Admiral M. Khronopulo, commander of the fleet; Senior Lieutenant N. Bogomyatkov; Senior Sergeant A. Katerev; and others noted the growing combativeness of Komsomol organizations and their contribution to further enhancing the combat readiness of ships, units, and formations. Komsomol committees and bureaus which had shown passivity in their work were criticized.

V. Makarenko, first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Crimean Oblast, took part in the conference's work.

MURAKHOVSKIY PRAISES RESCUE EFFORT IN GEORGIA

PM110935 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Report by TASS correspondents Lieutenant Colonel V. Yefanov and V. Golovin: "Help From Servicemen-Airmen"]

[Text] Servicemen of the Transcaucasus Military District are operating courageously and selflessly in the regions of the natural disaster in Georgia. Using powerful equipment, they are clearing roads, restoring communications, and organizing the electricity supply. Military airmen have shouldered a considerable volume of work in rescuing the affected population.

Helicopter pilots of the subunit fulfilling a task in the region of Poti, Khobi, and Tskhakaya are on permanent duty. Lieutenant Colonel N. Lukashev's crew has rescued 166 people. Lieutenant Colonel A. Selyakov's crew has lifted a further 44 victims from the roofs of flooded houses, and Captain V. Mikhaylov's crew -- 36.

In conversation with TASS correspondents V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, who heads the government commission to eliminate the aftermath of the natural disaster in Georgia and give the republic the necessary assistance, made a high assessment of the servicemen's actions, making special note here of the airmen's work.